

S criticizes allies over human rights abuses

American State Department yesterday condemned abuses of human rights by some of the "allies" of the United States. It included Israel which, not using torture as a consistent policy, is guilty of breaches of human rights in occupied territories, and Iran, although there had been significantly fewer

el and Iran among nations accused

Cross Feb 9 which is bound to be by some of the closest allies, the United States today announced that it was condemning human rights abuses in Israel and Iran.

A 426-page report on human rights abuses in Israel and Iran, which is bound to be by some of the closest allies, the United States today announced that it was condemning human rights abuses in Israel and Iran.

the poor. In South Korea, isolated cases of torture cannot be ruled out, the report says. In Iran, the report says, there have been reports of torture and other human rights abuses.

of Iran, there are reports of human rights abuses. The report says that the United States is fully upholding its commitment to human rights and will continue to monitor the situation in Iran.



President Sadat with Mr. Callaghan at the airport press conference.

Britain resists Sadat pressure for EEC support

By Edward Mortimer President Sadat had a 40-minute meeting with Mr. Callaghan at Heathrow airport yesterday on his way home to Egypt from the United States.

Mr. Callaghan later told the House of Commons that he hoped the Government and people of Israel would "recognize that Mr. Sadat is earnest in trying to find a way for Israel to live in peace and security".

Mr. Callaghan hinted, however, that he had resisted pressure from President Sadat to support a new declaration on the Middle East from the heads of government of the European Community when they meet in Copenhagen next week.

"I have discussed with Mr. Sadat the role Europe can play," he said. "At the moment, although public declarations can be made, I believe that private representations to both sides and a candid expression of opinion from both sides is the best way of helping these negotiations forward."

Water men toe the pay line

Leaders of 33,000 water supply workers gave the Government's pay policy another test yesterday by recommending a 10 per cent increase in wages.

Earlier there had been threats of protest action, and workers in Leeds had started a work-to-rule. A delegation from Leeds lobbied talks in London yesterday between union leaders and the National Water Council.

The Government's improved offer will raise water workers' minimum wage from £41.22 to £44.72 a week.

The water council also promised to review the grading structure, increase productivity schemes and introduce a better sick-pay scheme.

Engineering pay, page 2
Miners accept, page 3
Continued on page 2, col 6

Forces will requisition tankers if drivers' dispute becomes strike

By Peter Hennessy The Cabinet has authorized a plan whereby the Armed Forces will requisition vehicles to ensure the transport of essential fuel should the tanker drivers' overtime ban become an all-out strike.

"Operation Raglan", as it is called, has been a carefully guarded secret in Whitehall during the past few weeks. But news of it will appear today in the *Socialist Worker* newspaper.

The Cabinet's civil emergency committee, chaired by Mr. Rees, the Home Secretary, approved a plan two weeks ago authorizing the use of troops.

The Government has been concerned to conceal details of "Operation Raglan". It is a working assumption of Whitehall in such matters that disclosure can only inflame disputes.

The civil contingencies unit, whose existence is not publicly acknowledged, appoints ad hoc, inner-departmental teams to handle individual emergencies.

Another subject given priority at the moment is the possibility of a power workers' strike, judged by officials to be the most taxing contingency they would have to face.

There has been much Conservative backbench pressure for the debate, although its subject is virtually identical with last Monday's. It is true that the new contract clauses were sprung upon the House, but some Conservative backbenchers complained at the Front Bench's slowness in reacting. That was now made good on Monday.

One question of interest circulating last night was whether a future Conservative government would abandon the new contract clauses. Apparently Mrs. Thatcher would not rule out keeping them the while, depending on prevailing circumstances. Clearly, where contracts had already been signed companies might be in some difficulty if their competitors were immediately free of constraints.

Also it was not clear whether the Conservative leadership was encouraging companies to defy the Government. Each must decide for himself, it was said.

Tories return to attack on pay guidelines and sanctions

By Fred Emery Political Editor The Conservatives are forcing the Government to defend, for the second time, its use of sanctions in support of pay guidelines.

Mrs. Thatcher and five senior Shadow Cabinet colleagues yesterday tabled a motion for debate next Monday calling on the Government to withdraw the newly announced pay guidelines.

The motion protests at the arbitrary use of sanctions against firms and workers who have negotiated pay settlements beyond a rigid limit which Parliament has not approved.

Proclaiming himself "totally unrepentant" about the powers assumed and the way he was using them, Mr. Callaghan told his Commons constituency that he was "clearly accountable" to Parliament.

Financial stability key to growth, Bank chief says
By John Whitmore The economy could not be allowed to expand very vigorously until inflation had been brought under control, Mr. Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday.

He was also sceptical about switching to other targets, such as M1 or M2, and suggested that having more than one published target would merely create confusion.

He was also sceptical about the benefits of radical changes in our system of monetary control such as being put forward by advocates of the adoption of a monetary base system.

He doubted whether a move to base "high-powered" money control would enable control to be achieved with less variation to interest rates than at present.

Speaking in more general terms on the monetary policy, Mr. Richardson said he would not claim that money supply policy could or should be left to fight inflation single-handed. But there could be no doubt that over the longer term there was a definite relationship between monetary growth and inflation.

Monetary policy and publicly announced monetary targets were essential to provide the framework of stability within which other policy objectives might be more easily achieved, he argued.

Commenting on the relationship between monetary policy and the exchange rate, Mr. Richardson said it was clear that the Bank of England had not departed the whole of the intellectual modernist view that a floating exchange rate was an essential concomitant of sound monetary policy. He said the Bank had taken into consideration the effect of an appreciating exchange rate on export competitiveness and export profits.

Leading article, page 7
Summary of lecture, page 13

Cunard Line withdraws £18,000 of publicity

By David Nicholson-Lord An £18,000 advertising campaign with *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* has been cancelled by the Cunard Line after articles in the two papers about its cruise operations.

The cancellation by Cunard, which is part of the Trafalgar House conglomerate and numbers the *Daily Express* newspaper group among its sister companies, follows a letter last month from Mr. John Mitchell, its managing director, to Mr. M. J. Hussey, chief executive of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Mr. Mitchell, who asked for the letter to be regarded as private, complained about the content of the articles. "Without making the point too obviously, your group has benefited from the marketing efforts and skills which have been put into selling this product," he concluded.

Since the letter dealt with editorial matters, it was passed to Mr. William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times*, and Mr. Harold Evans, editor of *The Sunday Times*.

In his reply, Mr. Rees-Mogg referred to Mr. Mitchell's suggestion that Cunard was entitled to special treatment because of its advertising with the newspaper.

"I know how much such an implication would be resented by any of the Express newspapers with which you are associated and I am sure that on reflection you would wish to withdraw it," he wrote.

"I feel I must remind you that any attempt to introduce commercial considerations into complaints about the editorial conduct of a newspaper are bound to be resented, and rightly so, since they cut across the basic concept of the freedom of the press from commercial pressures."

Mr. Evans also replied to Mr. Mitchell, stating that he was disturbed by his letter, "not least by the final paragraph where you seem to suggest that we should be paid for our news."

WT:chall denial and Man in the news, page 4

Canada to expel spy case Soviet envoys

Ottawa, Feb 9.—Mr. Don Jamieson, the Canadian External Affairs Minister, said today that Canada has ordered some Soviet diplomats to leave the country.

Replying to a questioner in Parliament, Mr. Jamieson said: "I can confirm the general report." He added that he would elaborate in a full statement, "at the appropriate time."

Earlier press reports said that up to 12 Soviet diplomats were being expelled after police discovered a spy network.

The Edmonton Journal, in a report from its Ottawa correspondent, said that Soviet diplomats apparently tried to recruit Canadian citizens.

The expulsions came after a year-long investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The newspaper said the police action resulted in the biggest anti-espionage coup since the 1940s, when Igor Gouzenko, a Soviet cipher clerk, defected in Ottawa.

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Leading article, page 7
Summary of lecture, page 13

April 11 Budget: Budget day will be Tuesday. April 11, it was announced in the Commons yesterday.

Oil washed up: Glitche oilfields of oil were washed ashore last night on a two-mile stretch of coast south of Berwick-upon-Tweed.

as bring into low battle

began using heavy Soviet rockets in their third day of fighting. The Lebanese forces in and around Beirut were reported to be shelling the city.

Five Syrians were reported to be killed in a battle in the district said it had taken another 50 people. The battle has turned Christian to a ghost town.

Mrs Mandela cheering supporters, Mrs. Mandela, black militant, marched in a Bloemfontein court after spending six months in prison for breaking government regulations on her political and political activities.

mobilization decided to mobilize its civilian population, expecting an Ethiopian-Soviet war. The troops are being sent to the Somali border.

transfer fee been transferred from Manchester United to Liverpool for a fee of £450,000. The fee was also paid by the club.

petition petition alleging contempt of court by Daily Mail was lodged in the High Court by Archibald Thomson, accused of murdering Mr. Millicent, the former MP.

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Jaffa orange sales drop three fifths

There has been a drop of three fifths in the sales of Israeli oranges to British wholesalers since a contaminated fruit was found in London on Monday, according to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Information Bureau.

An orange contaminated with mercury has been found in Rugby. Page 3

Ethnic census plan The Registrar General is to seek parliamentary approval for the 1981 census to include a direct question on ethnic origins.

Caymans fraud squad The Cayman Islands Government is establishing its own fraud squad to police the many off-shore companies registered in the Caribbean tax haven.

Golf Open at Sandwich The British Open golf championship will be held in 1981 at Royal St. George's, Sandwich.

Devolution fight: The Government is to fight for removal of the contentious voting amendment forced on it in the Scotland Bill.

West Germany: Herr Herbert Kappler, the Nazi war criminal smuggled out of a Rome hospital last year, has died from cancer.

France: Kidnapped Lyons judge found unhurt tied to a tree.

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Business News, pages 17-23
Stock markets: Equities and gilts continued to benefit from the miners' deal and the T1 index closed 4.5 up to 4173.
Business features: Derek Harris on the battle between the chocolate and confectionery makers; William Chislett on problems in Spain's secondary banking sector.
Business Diary: The rush not to register company names in Wales.

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New Mrs Thatcher ignores backbench bait

He said that if the I Advocate took no action dire he would petition the F

The publishers and others concerned have been given 14 days to lodge answers.

A hearing before three judges in the High Court in Edinburgh will follow later this month.

Art in fight Pressing meet

Officers were unable to intervene immediately.

Within a few minutes, however, a score of officers, including mounted police, arrived to separate the groups.

Diana Wilkey, aged 18, a contractor, was taken to Oxley Hospital with a dislocated shoulder.

check first with the airline. fighting started, the few police a shortage

is raised with him at a mee-
fixed several months earlier,
had told Mr. Matthews that
was solely an editorial mat-
Mr. Mitchell last night
jested the idea that any s-
ominous blackmail was invol-
and said there was nothing
his letter he wished to a
draw. It had been endorse-
both Mr. Brookes and
Matthews before it was sen-
"We are now in a big of
paper group and we have
switched a lot of adverti-
to our own newspapers. I

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ME NEWS

Miners' leaders back deal to show loyalty to Government

Miners' leaders yesterday said they would accept a pay deal in return for the Government's promise to guarantee the coalminers' pension rights. The National Union of Mineworkers' executive committee agreed to proceed with the deal, which would see the 250,000 miners' wages rise by 4.5 per cent over the next 12 months. The deal was a significant step towards ending the long-running dispute between the miners and the Government. The Government had offered a 4.5 per cent rise in wages and a guarantee of pension rights in return for the miners' agreement to return to work. The miners' leaders had previously rejected the offer, but they now say they are prepared to accept it. This move was seen as a sign of loyalty to the Government and a willingness to end the strike.

Five-fifths drop in teli orange sales

A five-fifths drop in teli orange sales has been reported by the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture. The drop is attributed to a combination of factors, including a shortage of oranges in the market and a decline in consumer demand. The Ministry has urged growers to increase production and to improve the quality of their fruit. It has also advised consumers to buy oranges from reputable sources to ensure they are getting the best quality fruit. The drop in sales is a significant concern for the Israeli orange industry, which is a major export for the country. The Ministry is working to address the problem and to ensure that the industry remains viable in the long term.

in travel res worries ologists

Geologists, already out the effects of redeploy field surveillance, are concerned over the impact of the new travel restrictions on the environment. The restrictions, which are part of a new security measure, require travellers to provide detailed information about their movements and to undergo security checks. Geologists are worried that these measures could lead to a decline in tourism and to a loss of revenue for the country. They are also concerned that the restrictions could lead to a decline in the quality of the environment. The Ministry of Tourism is working to address these concerns and to ensure that the restrictions do not have a negative impact on the industry.

as More

provides an assessment of the impact of the new travel restrictions on the environment. The assessment shows that the restrictions have led to a decline in tourism and to a loss of revenue for the country. It also shows that the restrictions have led to a decline in the quality of the environment. The Ministry of Tourism is working to address these concerns and to ensure that the restrictions do not have a negative impact on the industry.

rt on three lakes gives priority reservation over other uses

Coniston Water, Derwent Water, and Ullswater are to be given priority for recreation and tourism over other uses, according to a new report. The report, which was commissioned by the Government, found that the lakes are of great importance to the local economy and to the environment. It recommended that the lakes should be managed in a way that ensures their long-term sustainability and that they are available for recreation and tourism. The report also recommended that the lakes should be protected from development and from pollution. The Government has agreed to implement the recommendations of the report and to ensure that the lakes are managed in a way that ensures their long-term sustainability.

£300,000 to be spent on criticized hospitals

Two large Hampshire hospitals for the mentally handicapped, serving the Portsmouth and Southampton areas, are criticized in a report by the National Development Team for the Mentally Handicapped. The report, which was published yesterday, found that the hospitals were in a state of disrepair and that the care provided was of poor quality. It recommended that £300,000 be spent on the hospitals to improve their facilities and to ensure that the care provided was of a high standard. The report also recommended that the hospitals be managed in a way that ensures their long-term sustainability and that they are available for the people who need them. The Government has agreed to implement the recommendations of the report and to ensure that the hospitals are managed in a way that ensures their long-term sustainability.

No offence to sell glue to children

Mohammed Malik, a shopkeeper, who sold glue to children, was not charged with a crime. The case, which was heard in the Sheriff's Court in Glasgow, involved a young boy who had been caught with glue. The shopkeeper, who had sold the glue to the boy, was charged with a crime. However, the Sheriff found that the shopkeeper had no intention of selling glue to children and that he had no knowledge of the boy's identity. He therefore acquitted the shopkeeper of the charge.

Mother jailed because no hospital can be found

Lord Stott, in the High Court in Edinburgh, yesterday, jailed a young mother with a psychiatric condition because no suitable hospital could be found for her. The mother, who was 26 years old, had been diagnosed with a psychiatric condition and had been in and out of hospital several times. She had been refused admission to a hospital because no suitable hospital could be found for her. Lord Stott found that the mother was a danger to herself and to others and that she needed to be in a hospital. He therefore jailed her for a period of 12 months.

Fostering trial in Somerset

Somerset social service department is offering foster-parents up to £55 a week to care for difficult children who would otherwise be placed in an institution. The normal fostering allowance is £15. The council said that about a dozen foster-parents were wanted for the experiment. "It is much cheaper than keeping a youngster in a children's home as well as being much better for the child concerned," said a council spokesman.

School to go after 16 years

Parkfields Comprehensive School, Wolverhampton, is to be demolished after only 16 years, although experts have declared it repairable. It developed a 150ft crack in its main structure last July. On the advice of the Department of Education and Science, the town's building and development committee has decided on demolition, because there was no guarantee that a repair would last 16 years.



The police asked an artist, Mr. John Worsley, for help in identifying a murdered girl, believed to be aged 16, whose body was found in the Grand Union Canal at Little Venice, Maida Vale, London. Working from police photographs of the body, he produced the above impression of what she looked like before her death.

Private care for elderly 'important to NHS'

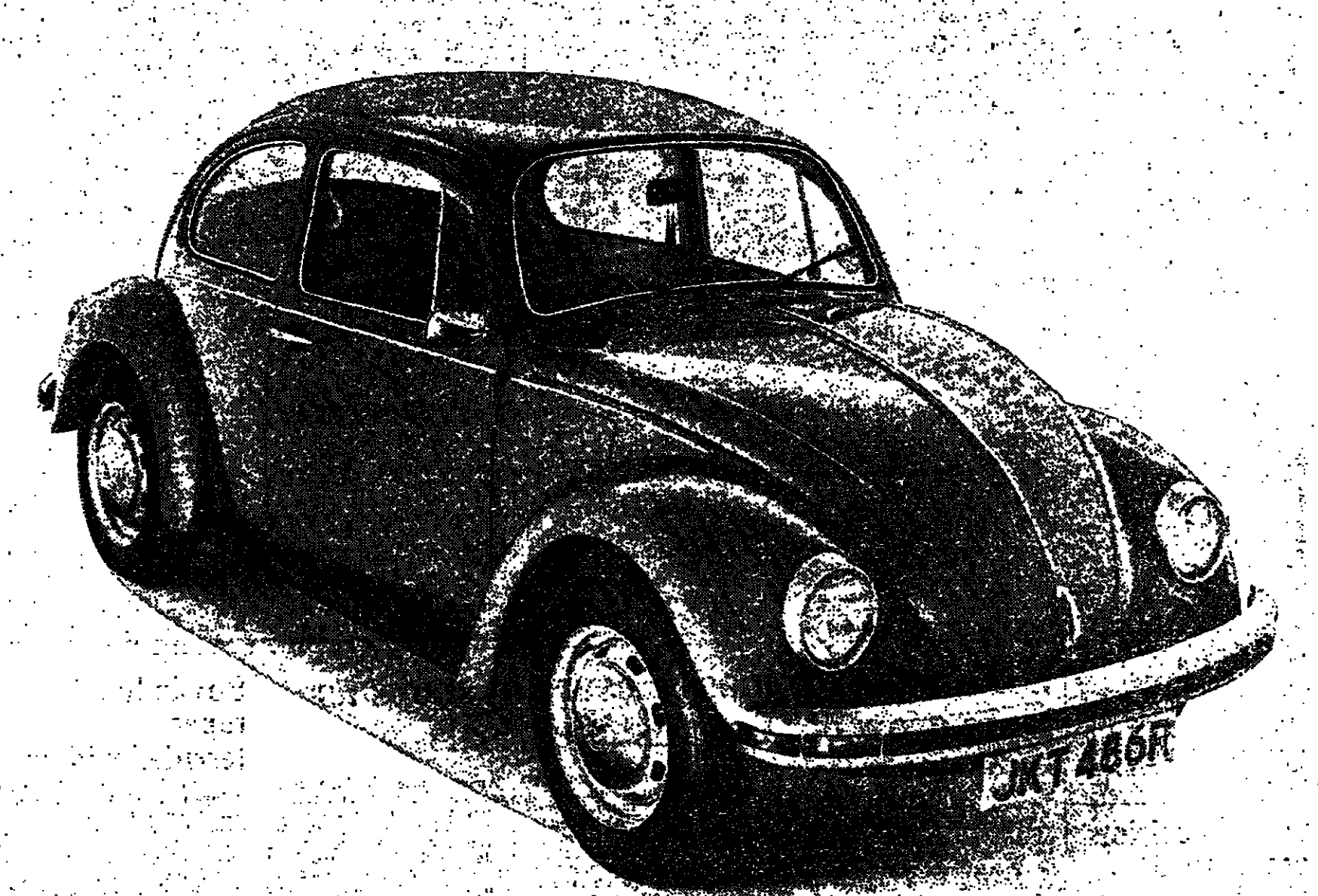
By Our Health Services Correspondent. If private hospital care of elderly and long-stay patients was removed overnight some serious health authorities would face disaster, a Royal Society of Health conference on private nursing homes was told yesterday. Mrs D. M. Hoadley, nursing director for West Sussex, said there were parts of the country where National Health Service geriatric and long-stay wards provided "half" the estimated need for beds. The NHS rented 3,133 beds in private hospitals and homes, mostly for elderly patients, with the mentally handicapped as the next priority, she said. There were more than 32,000 private beds in Great Britain. Some people could no longer afford private care, apparently, a fact that would influence private and public health planning and capital investment. Speakers at the conference, in London, suggested that the private sector is complementary to and important to the NHS. Mr S. E. Davis, secretary of the Registered Nursing Home Association, said the trend in NHS geriatric units "was on the quickest possible rehabilitation and discharge, regardless of whether the community was ready to receive the patient. Although government policy had been to divert resources from acute medical and surgical treatment towards preventive and community care, spending had been cut. It seemed unlikely that there would be much improvement for the next two years, but the proportion of the elderly in the population continued to grow. Costs for each patient in NHS long-term care units were on average higher than in the general fees of nursing homes in the same areas. Mr Moyle, Minister of State for Health, said last night that in our aging population the over-75s would increase by nearly half a million in the next twenty years.

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And what five-star guest wouldn't be delighted. For Knockando is probably one of the finest Scottish malt whisky you can drink. And just one of 44 that the hotel bar specialises in. The Club-like atmosphere of the bar (and also, incidentally the hotel itself) is ideal for enjoying a good malt whisky, or any other drink that our award-winning barman may get you. The Restaurant offers a choice of excellent traditional English and International dishes, as well as boasting one of the best wines lists in England. Situated on Piccadilly, in the heart of Mayfair, this excellent hotel is ideal for shopping in Bond Street, and the nightlife of the West End. To become a five-star guest ring the hotel or the Rank Hotels Central Reservations Office: 01-262 2893. Athenaeum Hotel 116 Piccadilly, London W1V 0BJ. Tel: 01-499 5464 Telex: 261589 Rank Hotels - The Hotels for five-star guests.

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HOME NEWS

Rules on radioactive substances curb freedom, doctors say

By John Roper

Senior doctors will today accuse government officials of framing draft regulations on the use of radioactive substances in a way that will interfere with their freedom in diagnosis, treatment and research. The dispute has developed at the end of nine months' discussion on the implementation in Britain of an EEC directive on radiological protection which says that "prior authorisation" must be applied before radioactive substances are used.

The doctors say the department officials have been too zealous in drafting regulations under which a certificate of approval from a non-medical person will be needed by doctors working in the field.

The doctors see the draft regulations, now in a final form and due for approval by ministers in the next week or two, as an attack on clinical freedom in the treatment of patients.

Dr Desmond Croft, a consultant physician and head of the department of nuclear medicine at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, said yesterday that the issue was what would be best for patients.

The regulations, as drafted, were equivalent to insisting that a physician, an obstetrician or a radiologist must get authorisation from someone outside the medical profession before those doctors could practise medicine needing the use of beds, an operating theatre or other equipment and facilities.

"We feel that the regulations as at present drafted should be stopped," Dr Croft, who is president of the British Nuclear Medicine Society, said. "It is a new example of how those outside the profession intend to influence and control the activities of doctors."

Dr Croft said that although one interpretation of the regulations could mean that he, as someone in charge of equipment and some staff in his department, might sign approval certificates that was untenable. The draft regulations also gave power to the Secretary of State for Social Services to revoke a doctor's certificate, which might occur if disagreement arose between the doctor and the department.

There was no quarrel with other professional people, such as physicists, Dr Croft said. They worked together well.

The Department of Health and Social Security said last night that it was required by the EEC to operate the regulations by June 1, but it was unlikely that that date would be met. The directive required three introductions of authorisation by a non-medical person, use of facilities and staff.

Coastal site named for gas-cooled reactor

By Roger Vielrope

A coastal site at Heysham, Lancashire, has been chosen by the Central Electricity Generating Board for the two advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGRs) approved by the Government last month. Work on the site is expected to start in 1980 and the first of the reactors due to be commissioned in 1986.

The CEBG already has a nuclear site licence and other necessary permissions for a 2,500 megawatt AGR station at Heysham. Work on the first two reactors began in 1970 and after long delays, the first of them should be commissioned in 1981.

Heysham was chosen for the two AGRs approved under the Government's revised nuclear strategy, because the generating board needs a new power plant in the area. The site is in the North Sea, between the towns of Heysham and Sellafield, and is close to the coast. The reactors will be built on a site of 150 acres, which is part of a larger area of 1,000 acres. The site is owned by the British Nuclear Fuels Corporation.

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Health service criticized over mental patients

The National Health Service was attacked by a senior medical officer at Risley remand centre yesterday for its attitude towards mental patients.

Dr William Lawson, consultant at Dudley Crown Court, West Midlands, said nursing staff put pressure on doctors not to accept certain admissions because of understaffing. He said the women before the court for sentence, Faylin Doreta McLean, should not be sent to prison for causing criminal damage. "She has become ill as a result of being unable to deal with an alien culture. We have seen this with other citizens from other Commonwealth countries."

He said the defendant, formerly of Wychbury Court, Dudley, was a psychotic and it was the duty of the health service, not the prison authorities, to care for the mentally ill. It was morally wrong for her to be sent to prison, because he offences she committed were related to her illness.

He said the defendant had pleaded not guilty in January to breaking a car window and damaging a car. Judge Northcott agreed with Dr Lawson but remanded the defendant in custody until Dr T. Ramsey, the regional medical officer for the West Midlands Health Authority, could attend court and discuss the case.

The judge said the indications were that hospitals were unwilling to accept the defendant and that it was not right that she should pass this matter on to the authorities. It is a task for which the prison service is not designed.

'Scum' decision commended

Mr Alastair Milne, managing director of BBC Television, has been commended by the corporation's general advisory council on his decision not to show a play, *Scum*, by Roy Minton, which he described as "the most violent play the BBC has ever made."

The commendation was made during the council's monthly meeting. Mr Milne told the council that he had taken the advice of experts and remained unconvinced of the play's dramatic truth.

Owl order proposed

A proposal to make it illegal to sell live little owls bred in captivity has been announced yesterday by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Exposure to radiation twelve times too great

By Pearce Wright

The most serious case of over-exposure to radiation in an accident at work in Britain, outside the nuclear industry, is outlined in a report from the National Radiological Protection Board, published yesterday.

Two people were contaminated when between 300 and 400 curies of tritium gas escaped from a broken machine. The whole body dose of more than 60 rems received by each of the workers is more than 12 times the maximum permissible exposure recommended for radiation workers in a year. The levels for radiation workers are 10 times higher than those allowable for members of the public.

The accident occurred in a factory, not identified in the report, which used tritium gas to fill the newer type of fluorescent lamps used for emergency exit signs, night safety lights and on instrument panels of aircraft and military vehicles.

A biological assessment of the damage from such a large dose of radiation has been made by the board. It is done by examining the chromosomes in the nuclei of blood cells for breaks. Under the microscope the chromosome look similar to short threads of wool, along which a break is easily seen.

The technique has been perfected by the board for investigating cases to which the routine film badges, or other monitoring devices, worn by radiation workers show over-exposure.

The tritium incident is recorded in a report of an investigation into 55 suspected over-doses last year. Twenty-two of them were confirmed as small over-doses; the largest group of 15 came from the industrial use of radiation sources, particularly for non-destructive testing of welds and joints. Four were from the nuclear industry, and three from research and health service institutions.

Since the accident the machinery for filling tritium lamps has been modified at the request of the nuclear branch of the Health and Safety Executive.

Doses in radiation accidents investigated by chromosome aberration analysis. National Radiological Protection Board (Stationery Office: £1).

Bonds campaign 'misleading'

The February Which? magazine says that the Department for Social Services is running a misleading campaign for premium bonds in saying that premium bonds offer a form of gambling in which "you never lose your stake money."

The magazine says the state is not the money investor but the interest the money might have earned elsewhere.

One high official, with a robust sense of phrase when asked this week if there was an element of corporate menace in present arrangements, replied: "We do not regard it as a corporate menace. You could argue that the corporate state came to Germany in 1933 because inflation got out of control."

If the Government's measures are a corporate phenomenon, then that particular benchmark was passed long ago and a half century ago.

For the first government document to mention the sanc-



Designs for spring: Mr John West, aged 28, a former theatre designer, painting canal boat utensils in traditional style at his studio near Dewsbury, ready for the trade that he expects to arrive with the warmer weather.

Whitehall denies trend towards corporatism

By Peter Hennessy

Senior civil servants in economic ministries directly concerned with income policy, making have been taken back by the furor aroused in Parliament and the press over the disclosure of a government blacklist of companies breaching the 10 per cent pay guidelines.

Mindful of the suspicions harboured about Whitehall's allegedly dirigiste economic philosophy by some members of the Shadow Cabinet, they have been at pains to dispel any impression that the withholding of contracts from companies ignoring government norms is a significant milestone on the road to a corporate state.

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For the first government document to mention the sanc-

tion now being applied was the White Paper, *The Attack on Inflation*, published in July, 1975. On public purchasing, it stated: "The Government will also take account of a firm's record of observance of the pay limit in its general purchasing policy and in the awarding of contracts."

It was equally explicit on assistance to industry: "From now on, the Government in handling applications for assistance under the Industry Act, 1972, will interpret the national interest as including observance of the pay limit. The Government will not give discretionary assistance under the Industry Act to companies which have broken the pay limit."

Other weapons in the Government's armoury of discretionary powers include the temporary employment subsidy and section 2 export credits under the Export Credits Guarantee Act, 1975. Controversy over such sanctions had to await phase three of incomes policy because the threat of their use under earlier phases was enough to deter all but a handful of companies from potential breach of guidelines.

Figures available from the Treasury yesterday for companies in breach of pay limits during the successive phases of incomes policy were: phase one (1975/76), 5; phase two (1976/77), 7; and phase three (1977/78), 23.

Last summer the Prime Minister felt it necessary to appoint a standing subcommittee of the Cabinet's steering committee on economic policy to monitor backsliders. Its chairman is Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, and not Mr Healey, the Chancellor as stated in previous reports. Mr Hattersley is deputising for the Chancellor on all matters affecting pay while Mr Healey prepares his Budget.

The Civil Service committee shadowing Mr Hattersley and his colleagues is serviced by the economic secretariat of the Cabinet Office. A flood of cases arising from the vague nature of phase three has kept both ministerial and official committees in regular session.

A veteran maker of income policy in Whitehall accounts for the latter-day discovery of corporatism in the Government's methods in the following terms. In 1973 the enemy was at the gate. It was 55 flat for everybody. The TUC and the CBI both said "Yes" and not a dog barked. Phase one and two were set in motion and were observed. The present phase is neither voluntary nor statutory. If not everybody plays the game according to the rules then there have to be sanctions. I believe they should be precise, formal and preferably automatic. But we cannot have that for political reasons. It is unsatisfactory to have a blacklist, but if we did not have one I suspect that it would be ineffectual towards those who exercised

restraint and that it might lead to a breakdown of the policy with very serious consequences.

Another civil servant, with a philosophical bent, argues that the application of classical nineteenth-century economic liberalism is no longer possible when cartels and powerful trade unions pervert market forces: "You have got to deal with those institutions that do have the power to distort the market. The alternative is very costly and possibly confrontational. You have got to seek to constrain people from using economic power."

That may smack of corporatism, but the general feeling at the summit of economic policy-making in Whitehall is that the Government's pay guidelines enjoy public support and are working. To sustain their effect the Cabinet must bring to book those who do not comply, using all the weapons that are at hand and within the law.

Mr Hattersley's standing subcommittee has an air of permanence about it. It is not particularly high-powered in its composition. The Treasury, for example, is represented by Mr Barnett, Chief Secretary, rather than the Chancellor. But it seems to have acquired a vitality and importance all its own while other more blue-ribbon material groupings languish for lack of use.

Still areas of acute house need, group says

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

Britain's housing shortage is not over, the National Consumer Council says today, in response to the Government Green Paper on housing policy.

There is strong evidence, council argues, that not even in housing need is on a long list and that there are many urban areas where housing shortage is acute.

The old and disabled are inadequately housed, the council believes, and that social trends have not been adequately considered. In particular, it says there has been a great increase in the number of single persons for separate housing, while the growth incidence of broken marriages and the increasing tendency of young people to leave home set up separate households make the situation more difficult.

To meet those needs and offset the effect of a sharp drop in the supply of private rented accommodation, council suggests that local authorities should provide a council housing for single people and childless couples.

The council rejects the Green Paper's premise that that would be possible only where a local authority had already made sufficient provision for its national priority groups, such as families and the elderly.

It recommends that council tenants licensed by the local authority should be encouraged to take in single people, lodgers or even have a second accommodation.

The consumer council is for improved council housing and says tenants should be partners in housing programmes, actively involved in the development of housing authorities to make transfer easier.

The council opposes the idea of council houses unless authority can prove that it meets all the need for residential accommodation. It criticises the development of "homeless" schemes, "socially divisive".

The NCC welcomes the Green Paper's recommendation that local authorities should pool their resources with private landlords, but it wants the authorities to apply more attention to the time it has been waiting.

Access, Allocation and Transfer in Council Housing, available from the NCC, 18 Queen Anne Gate, London, SW1.

Post Office Bill would permit sympathy strike

By Our Political Correspondent

Post Office workers would give the right to strike but to take discriminatory action against particular users of the service under a Bill introduced by Norman Tebbit, Labour MP for Renfrewshire, West, to be passed today.

Due for second reading February 17, it is the third of a series of private member Bills on union rights, which have attracted strong criticism from Conservatives.

It was thought that Tebbit's Bill would deal with the Post Office workers' right to strike in a dispute with the Post Office, but it will lay down that it should not be an offence for them to strike in sympathy with other workers.

The Bill also seeks to ensure that Post Office workers are not subject to prosecution if they take industrial action short of a strike.

If there was a recurrence of the Greenwich dispute and such a strike, the Bill would be able to discriminate against the company's mail as a particular user. They would be able to mount an all-out strike affecting all users of the mail.

The champagne drinkers

Paris, Feb 9.—The French drink two and a half times more champagne than the rest of the world put together, according to figures released by the trade association of champagne producers. The French consume nearly 125 million bottles per cent more than in 1976. Exports rose to nearly 46 million bottles.

Mr Hattersley ready for enforced debate

By Michael Hatfield

Political Reporters

Vested interests trying to unravel the mysteries of the Government's economic strategy pay committee would have found at least three useful clues reclining on the Treasury benches in the Commons on Tuesday night.

They were Mr Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. All are members of the Cabinet's economic strategy pay committee, which scrutinises wage claims and nominates recalcitrant firms for breaching the Government's pay guidelines.

It fell to Mr Hattersley to lead the Government's case against the argument for pay on to prices and counter-inflation; and, second, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection was deemed the best man to lead the counter-attack against Conservative criticism.

When Mr Hattersley stands at the dispatch box he can have all the subtlety of a juggernaut lorry driver. Even his most restrained ripostes to

Tory opponents are delivered as if he were moving over in the way of an oncoming cyclist, whether it be Mrs Sally Oppenheim or Mr John Nott in the saddle.

The Secretary of State for Prices was better prepared than is realized. For the Cabinet decided more than a week ago that the Government should introduce the two new clauses into contractual agreements with firms, and it had been the intention to make a statement today. The Shadow Cabinet's decision to force a debate on Tuesday hastened Mr Hattersley into the spotlight. Being a man who could develop a politically debilitating phobia against remaining in the shadows, he is hardly likely to have objected.

Mr Hattersley has developed a reputation for wearing his ambition not so much on his sleeve as on his chin. He has been prepared to stick his neck out for an extraordinary argument in Cabinet as far back as last August for raising the value of the pound and so far he shows no signs of a glass jaw.

The reasoning is not hard to guess. His cabinet colleagues of State for Prices, can be calculated in inverse ratio to the drop in the retail price index. It was he, not the Prime Minister



Mr Hattersley: Wears ambition on his chin.

Such are competing for the vacancy created by the death of Mr Crossland as the theorist of the social democracy of the Labour Party. As young men they are seen as contenders for the leadership of the Party before the turn of the century.

Those Tories who believe that the aggressive Mr Hattersley on Tuesday night was using the state vehicle to knock down the barriers protecting the private sector from competition, their man. While believing in a degree of extended public ownership, Mr Hattersley fervently upholds the concept of the mixed economy. The mainstay of his philosophy is the need for growth, which will come from the much needed public spending on social and welfare services.

Civil servants have come to respect, sometimes admire, Mr Hattersley's ebullient approach towards work.

Mr Hattersley, aged 45, is a Sheffield Grammar School boy who, after leaving Hull University, worked with the Health Service Executive. He was elected to Labour politics on Sheffield City Council, becoming a member in 1957. He was first elected to Parliament as MP for Birmingham, Sparkbrook, in 1964.

Boy in hood raped terrified widow

A poacher, aged 16, who stripped naked apart from his Wellington boots and made a hood out of his poacher's bag, called at a cottage where a widow of 67 lived alone and forced the terrified woman to strip naked, it was alleged at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday.

Mr Justice O'Connor ordered the boy, from Kenilwood, Bedfordshire, to be detained for life after he had pleaded guilty to raping the woman.

The judge described it as a terrible offence and said that although medical evidence showed the boy might get better there was no way of knowing how long that would take.

Mr Peter Thornton, for the prosecution, said there was a struggle in the woman's front room and she lost her glasses and dentures before being flung on the settee. "She was told to get on to the mat and undo her clothes." The boy made several clumsy attempts to have intercourse with her before succeeding.

Parliamentary report, page 6

MPs protest at plan for new US base

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

Two Conservative MPs, Mr Michael McNair-Wilson (Newbury) and Mr David Mitchell (Basingstoke), yesterday protested about a proposal to re-open RAF Greenham Common, near Newbury, as a United States Air Force base.

Mr McNair-Wilson said he had heard of the plans in April, 1977, but was asked to keep the conversation confidential. He had been told that, as a result of the changed threat to the Nato alliance, the United States had come to the conclusion that it needed another air base in England.

On Monday, Mr McNair-Wilson saw Mr Wellbeloved, Under-Secretary for the RAF, who said the Government would decide on the United States request within three months.

The former wartime airfield has one of Europe's longest runways, 10,000 ft. The Americans would use for KC135 Hercules transport aircraft and C130 Hercules transport aircraft.

"There would be flying every day of the week and night flying at all hours," Mr McNair-Wilson said. "There would be an actual investment

of \$50m at the outset and an annual expenditure of \$15m.

"All work would be done by the Property Services Agency and about 250 people would be recruited locally."

Mr McNair-Wilson said a protest about the plan had come from 140 people concerned about a school near the end of the runway. They said the noise would be intolerable and the experience showed that it caused some of the young children physical pain. He also feared that if there was an accident the school might be involved.

shire. Verdicts were recorded that Mrs Julie Roberta Farrar, aged 25, had been killed unlawfully, and that Mr Farrar, aged 25, a joiner, had killed himself.

In his statement Mr Farrar said he saw his wife, who had left him, at their home on the evening of November 13 last year but she refused to return. "I put my hands round her

neck with my thumbs pressed back against her Adam's apple. She did not seem to struggle much. She did not scream but tried to hit me and could not. I was pressing as hard as I could with my thumbs and fingers. I long time.

He carried his wife upstairs and then took an overdose of crushed paracetamol tablets

THE NEWS

Next census may seek record number of coloured population

Hamilton
The 31 census of population for the first time will ask each person to identify himself to one of a list of ethnic groups: white, West Indian, African, Arab, Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan and other (to be specified).
The aim, the office says, would be to provide an objective measure of the numbers of ethnic groups in housing, employment, and so on, of the main ethnic groups.
Last autumn the office sent out 1,250 experimental census forms including the proposed ethnic question to a number of predominantly immigrant areas and reported that most people completed them without offence.
Before any general census is taken the Registrar-General has to seek an Order in Council, which specifies the topics on which questions may be asked, and gives both Houses of Parliament the opportunity to debate the wisdom of asking questions on sensitive issues.
Racial questions were first asked in the census of 1920, when the Government of the day wanted information on the large number of Jewish immigrants arriving in Britain and the number of Germans living in the country.

It to sue noise 'practical'

a Goodwin
ary Staff
Citizens the right to action over aircraft noise have been given a boost by a report from the Civil Aviation Authority. The report, which was published yesterday, said that there is no need for a new law to deal with aircraft noise. It said that the existing law, which gives the courts the power to grant injunctions against aircraft operators, is "practical" and "adequate".
The report also said that the Civil Aviation Authority is considering the possibility of introducing a new law to deal with aircraft noise. It said that the new law would give the courts the power to grant injunctions against aircraft operators, and that it would also give the courts the power to award damages to people who are affected by aircraft noise.

Hill plan to be published soon

Correspondent
The proposals that should become a bill and that the Home Office said yesterday that the rules to be followed by the courts when granting or withholding bail would be published shortly.
The courts will have to start from the assumption that bail should be granted, and if they refuse bail or impose conditions they will have to state their reasons.
The Act creates a new offence, absconding, which will carry a maximum penalty of three months' imprisonment and a fine of £400 on summary conviction; and up to 12 months' jail and an unlimited fine on indictment.

for more hospital cars in rural areas

Parliamentary Staff
The Government wants to see the social and economic benefits of the Red Cross's Royal Service, to help rural areas with bus services, Mr. Secretary of Transport, said.
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Police say man was hurt during arrest

Sidney Duncan Noble, aged 49, appeared at Derby Crown Court yesterday with an injured arm and a slight bruise on the right side of his face. Det-Supt James Reddington, head of Derbyshire's southern area CID, said later that Mr. Noble was hurt when he was arrested after a chase at Rhyll, Clwyd, early on Wednesday, but he did not know how the injuries were caused.
Mr. Noble was in court to answer a bench warrant issued on October 24 after he had failed to surrender to his bail on three charges of burglary. He nodded in agreement when the clerk of the court asked him if he was granted bail on October 12, and that he failed to appear for his trial on October 24.
Mr. Malcolm Moores, for the Crown, asked for a remand, saying: "The reports of events since Noble was granted bail will be familiar at least to his recollection to everybody. What the Crown requires is some time to conduct proper investigations into this matter and to decide the proper course to be taken, bearing in mind that allegations are made of offences in various parts of the country. They need to be looked into and maybe at some time brought together."
Judge Woods said he would be sitting next in Derby on March 6, and it would be more convenient to remand Mr. Noble in custody until then. There might be administrative difficulties because of inquiries by other police forces.

Gift of estate to cult means loss of right to any say in appointment of clergy Parishioners object to 'Moon' cult convert as patron

By Diana Pate
Mr. Henry Masters, a convert to the Unification Church, who gave up his 600-acre Wiltshire estate to the movement, has now lost the patronage that went with it.
That means that he will no longer have any say in choosing the clergy in the benefice and has lost the right of patronage that had been held by him and his family for more than 400 years, since the Church of England was constituted under Elizabeth I.
Mr. Masters has been dropped from the patronage of the benefice of South Marston with Stanton Fitzwarren, now united under a new scheme with neighbouring Stratton St. Margaret, after objections from the local clergy and parishioners to the diocese of Bristol.
In a letter to the Church Commissioners, the Bishop of Bristol, the Rev. Ernest Tinsley, said the Unification Church "was something entirely other than a mere sectarian movement" and "has some quite sinister features associated with it". A representative of the Church Commissioners said patrons were usually retained when benefices were reorganized "unless there are pastoral or practical objections".
Through his solicitors, Gregory, Rowcliffe & Co, who are also solicitors for the Unification Church, Mr. Masters made strong objection to being dropped from the patronage board, demanding "a voice in the choice of any new incumbent with the object of ensuring that the new rector will be a man of sufficient breadth of vision and ecumenical outlook, capable of encouraging the spiritual wellbeing of every soul resident in the joint parish".
Mr. Masters had the right of appeal to the Privy Council before mid-January last. He has not given notice of appeal within the statutory period and thus has lost his position.
One smaller compensation for him may be the addition he receives in the Unification Church's magazine, *New Tomorrow*. In December's issue he was described as "the rich man Jesus never found".
With some understandable glee the article recounts how Henry Arthur Corbett Masters went to live and study with Sun Myung Moon in New York.
"Coming back he realized why Jesus could not find a rich man to give all. None of them had enough trust in God. Henry Arthur Corbett Masters was to become that rich man Jesus never found. He discussed how he could give his estate to God. It covered over 600 acres and four farms and had been in the family for 400 years."
"It took altogether two years for everything to be arranged legally. It was decided to set up a foundation to promote the spread of God's word, beauty and goodness. Henry with others wanted it to be called the Sun Myung Moon Foundation. Sun Myung Moon agreed and warned him that if they did so they would be bitterly persecuted."
"That prophetic warning was to come true. The local paper, the *Swindon Advertiser*, printed all manner of mal-

icious statements. Henry, this quiet, courteous, devout Christian was to be called 'all manner of things'.
The crusading spirit apparent among church leaders and youth groups opposed to the 'Moonies' is strongly in evidence in the market towns along the M4 Bible belt from London to South Wales into which Moon members launch their teams of missionaries. It is strikingly evident also, in Wiltshire, where there are two large Unification Church communities, or 'families' as they are known, at Stanton Fitzwarren and at Seend.
In Chippenham, where 'Moon' members sell their magazine, *One World*, and try to make converts, members of the Chippenham Council of Churches, counterattack by handing out their own material explaining the cult.
Swindon Youth for Christ and its affiliated inner-church organization, *Share*, has already printed 10,000 copies of its anti-Moon leaflet, *Just a Family Affair?* and says the demand is unprecedented, coming from as far afield as Newport, where the sect has another centre.
The *Share* pamphlet reads: "They (the Unification Church) were founded by a Korean 'prophet', Sun Myung Moon, who they claim has received a vital message from God for this generation. If you ask them what the message is, they seem curiously reluctant to pass it on, but they'll very readily invite you to live with them for a weekend or even a week, to listen to some lectures and find out the facts."
"All very innocent, a bit

Low school standards worry Wales

From Tim Jones
Cardiff
Teaching organizations in Wales, with the Confederation of British Industry, the TUC and other interested bodies will attend a conference next month to discuss the growing and worrying disparity between educational achievements in the principality and England.
The conference has been called by Mr. Jones, Under-Secretary of State for Wales, in the light of growing evidence that academic standards of Welsh children compare badly with those elsewhere in Britain.
In Wales more children leave school without a GCE or CSE result than in England. In 1975-76 the proportion for Wales was 26.6 per cent, against 16.5 per cent in England.
Although the proportion of unqualified leavers in both countries has declined in recent years the disparity between them appears to be widening. It appears to be confined to the lower levels of achievement.
At the conference delegates will be asked to consider why marginally fewer pupils in Wales obtain only one or two O levels and why the standard of achievement for CSE examinations is lower than in England.
Most emphasis will be placed on ways of improving literacy and numeracy among Welsh children.

Murder charge

Anthony Plinders, aged 31, of Attenborough Lane, Chilwell, Nottingham, was remanded in custody for a week at Nottingham Magistrates' Court yesterday, accused of murdering Miss Alice Dixon, aged 86, who was found strangled at her home at the weekend.

New rules on bail to be published soon

By John Groser
The Bail Act, 1976, will come into force on April 17, and the Home Office said yesterday that the rules to be followed by the courts when granting or withholding bail would be published shortly.
The courts will have to start from the assumption that bail should be granted, and if they refuse bail or impose conditions they will have to state their reasons.
The Act creates a new offence, absconding, which will carry a maximum penalty of three months' imprisonment and a fine of £400 on summary conviction; and up to 12 months' jail and an unlimited fine on indictment.

New GLC chairman

Mr. Harold Mote, aged 58, of Harrow, chairman of the Greater London Council's London Transport committee, is to be the council's new chairman.



The driver of one of these cars was slightly injured.

The driver of the other car was killed. The cars were involved in a head-on collision with each other; they were virtually identical cars and they sustained very similar external damage.
The driver of the white car was wearing a seat belt and escaped with minor injuries.
The driver who was killed was not wearing a seat belt. And if you take a look at the interior photographs of the two cars, you can see the force of the impact where the driver without a seat belt was thrown forward against the wheel and steering column.
This was not a simulated crash. It actually happened on the A4 just outside Newbury. It happens all the time. Last year, it was estimated that 12,000 people were needlessly killed or seriously injured because they chose not to wear a seat belt.

If you don't wear a seat belt, you double your risk.

Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of being killed or seriously injured by about half. This is not a theory. This is a figure produced from a meticulous study of serious road accidents in the U.K.
It is based, not just on statistics, but on painstaking analysis of the exact injuries of hospital patients, and of post-mortem examinations. And it is a figure which is supported by

the experience of many other countries round the world.
By not wearing a seat belt, you are deliberately doubling your risk of being killed or seriously injured.

Why don't more people wear seat belts?

More people wear seat belts today than they did, say, six years ago - but still only one in five regularly wears a belt. Why don't the others? Well, there are a great many highly ingenious excuses. Doctors in hospital casualty departments have heard them all.
Some people fear being trapped in the event of the car catching fire. But fire is present in only an infinitesimal number of accidents - in fact only about 0.5% of serious casualties occur in such accidents.
And if you are involved in such an accident, and you're not wearing a belt, there is a very high risk of you being knocked unconscious. In that event, you certainly would not be able to free yourself. But that's only one of a familiar catalogue of excuses, none of which stands up to the facts.

The short journey fallacy

By far the most common reason for not wearing a seat belt is the widely-held attitude that belts are unnecessary for short journeys round town.
CLUNK-CLICK

If you don't wear a seat belt, you double your risk.

Apart from the fact that over half of the total injuries to car users happen in built-up areas, there is no such thing as a 'safe' speed at which to have an accident. Without a seat belt you can be killed even at very slow speeds.

A head-on collision between two vehicles travelling at 25 m.p.h. produces an equivalent impact speed of 50 m.p.h. Hitting something at that kind of speed is like falling face-down from the roof of a seven-storey building. Is your steering wheel really the thing you'd most like to land on?

Unnecessary injury.

There are also people who choose not to wear a seat belt for no other reason than that they can't be bothered.

Some of them even resent being told the facts about seat belts.

They regard any form of persuasion as being an attempt to interfere with their personal liberty.

But the people who feel they should have the freedom to go through a car windshield if they choose to, might consider this: have they really the right to occupy hospital beds unnecessarily when medical resources are already so stretched? And have they the right to put the livelihood and happiness of their families at risk, simply because they themselves choose to ignore the simple cold facts?

PARLIAMENT, February 9, 1978.

Mr Callaghan unrepentant about use of powers: Government must account for their actions

House of Commons

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said that he was "totally unrepentant" about the powers that were being used in connection with public contracts and the purposes for which they were being taken.

He also said, when questioned about further nationalization measures, that there was a good case for reorganization of the building industry, and commenting on the speech by Mr Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, to the overseas bankers yesterday (Wednesday) he said he wondered how many millions of jobs would be lost if the Tories ever got back to power.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C) had raised with him the speech on public ownership made by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London on January 24.

Mr Latham said: "The Secretary of State has told us that nationalization is back on the political agenda. Does the Prime Minister support the Labour Party's proposal for the nationalization of building and building materials companies?"

Mr Callaghan (Cardiff, South-East, Lab) said: "Nationalization is never off the agenda. (Conservative cry: 'Oh no!') I cast my mind back over the sequence of events that began with Cammell Laird and on through Rolls-Royce, shipbuilders and Leylands. (Labour cheers.)"

So whatever may be the views of the Opposition party in opposition, the Labour Party have to face the facts.

The Labour Party manifesto will be published in due course. I shall hope to see it. I do not think the building industry is in a very happy situation or is very well organized or is very well run. It is a case of reorganization. (Labour cheers and Conservative interruptions.)

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab) would like to know if private enterprise can only exist along a whole range of consumer durables and cars on the basis of £1m or £2m. Is that the only form or form of ownership?

In view of yesterday's decision by the miners, which was said by the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr Denis Healey) to be a sensible, can we take it that the

Prime Minister and the Cabinet agree that the statement by Joe Cornhill, who was Minister of Energy, that he was not repentant about the powers that were being used in connection with public contracts and the purposes for which they were being taken.

Mr Callaghan—I do not think that in his inimitable speech at the School of Oriental Studies, the Secretary of State for Energy dealt with this question. (Laughter.)

What is clear is that the economy of this country will not work properly unless there is a proper balance between the private and public sectors. This is recognized on nearly all sides except when the Opposition get into a pre-election mood.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C) in his speech the Secretary of State for Energy used a phrase about "limiting unaccountable power".

Would the Prime Minister take a look at the report on statutory instruments of 1976-77, a report which was published yesterday and which spoke of the Government in terms of having a cynical disregard for the rights of the subject? Would he say what remedies he proposes to apply? (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Callaghan—Yes, of course I will study that report with great interest. I do not think a Government which has very great powers should behave in a cynical way in regard to them. (Conservative cries of "Oh no.")

I think the Government therefore should examine anything that is put before it. I do not think it is fair to say that they are a small—have said on this and make a reply in due course.

What is clear, because of the Government's big influence on the economy, is that they must exercise power, be willing to accept the responsibility for it, and be prepared to account for themselves to Parliament. This is the centrepiece and it is Parliament which in the end will judge if it wishes to do so, will remove the Government.

That is what I stand on and that is what I have always stood on. (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: Would he not regard it as cynical the use of discretion for limited purposes in an unlimited way and then setting himself up as the sole judge of the national interest? (Conservative cheers.)

responsibly as the National Union of Mineworkers regarding prices and services, and in regard particularly to wages and salaries in the private sector, they should take their lead from the NUM?

Mr Callaghan—It is the case that although the NUM believes it has a power to set a higher figure than 10 per cent, it has not publically acknowledged that they intend to accept this figure at present.

The whole nation will be grateful that responsibility has been taken as I always believed it would. I think the miners of Britain for what they have done.

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Croydon, Lab) would like to know if a debate immediately on the future level of earnings after July given that most trade unions have agreed to limit their demands in advance of the TUC conference?

Mr Callaghan—This is a difficult problem as to how to handle negotiations in a free society. If I could suggest a sum of policy would be to accept it would not be to make it.

There is a certain cynicism about these discussions at the moment. I would not want to see a decision on the matter. The level of increases next year will influence the level of inflation and I am saying this publicly and privately.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Gill (Ormskirk, Lab) said the best exponent of cynical attitudes was Mrs Thatcher who talked a motion for debate on Tuesday and then said during the course of the debate that she disagreed with it.

Mr Callaghan—I followed that interesting interchange and the motion on the order paper. What I think was more important was Mrs Thatcher's speech to the overseas bankers yesterday.

She said in effect she would really prefer to see the multi-faceted arrangement wound up. (Labour cries of "Oh no.")

As the Opposition have to intend that if they ever get back to power they should stop running them down and stand up for British industry. (Labour cheers.)

Mr William Whitely (Eding, North, Lab) would like to know if the British majority of the British people will expect them to act as

Flexibility wanted on the part of Israel

Questioned about his discussion with President Sadat of Egypt at Heathrow this morning, Mr Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said it was the Government's view that Israel should show flexibility in the negotiations but that Israeli security was paramount.

Mr Dennis Walters (Westbury, C) had said Mr Sadat's initiative appeared to be faltering as a result of Israel's failure to respond.

Bearing in mind the disastrous consequences to Europe of there was a breakdown in the negotiations, did Mr Callaghan tell Mr Sadat the time had come for the European Community to play an active part?

Mr Callaghan—Mr Sadat clearly went to the United States feeling his initiative was faltering and, as he said, feeling despondent about the present position. As a result of the discussions with President Carter he feels there is greater prospect of resuming discussions than there was.

It is the view of the Government that Israel should show flexibility in the negotiations but that Israeli security is paramount.

When discussing this with Mr Sadat, I found he recognized this. I hope that the government and people of Israel will recognize that Mr Sadat is earnest in trying to find a way for Israel to live in peace and security.

I have discussed the role Europe can play with Mr Sadat. At the moment although public declarations can be made, I believe that private representations to both sides would be the best way of helping these negotiations forward.

More powers for councils with deprived inner city areas: firms urged to increase investment

Up to now London boroughs had had no specific powers to assist industry. The Bill would give a number of boroughs these powers for the first time. In addition the GLC's own Bill would remove the pre-war statutory restriction on advertising that had inhibited the importance of the signs in the statutory recognition.

Many vacant or disused inner areas contained the remains of old buildings, or had been used for dumping waste. The Bill would enable the GLC to demolish or clear these areas and to build new buildings on these sites often considerably greater than the cost of using a "green field".

A clause provided for designating areas for the purpose of site preparation works in partnership areas. These areas would be at commercial rates, but not at the rates which would be charged for site preparation works in partnership areas.

The higher rates would be paid when forced to move from low-cost premises by redevelopment. The Bill would also allow designated district authorities in special areas to make grants to the owners of premises for site preparation works in partnership areas. These grants would be at commercial rates, but not at the rates which would be charged for site preparation works in partnership areas.

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Bringing people and money back

Mr Michael Heseltine, Chief of the Civil Service, said the scale of financial commitments of the Government was massive. The Bill would give a number of boroughs these powers for the first time. In addition the GLC's own Bill would remove the pre-war statutory restriction on advertising that had inhibited the importance of the signs in the statutory recognition.

Many vacant or disused inner areas contained the remains of old buildings, or had been used for dumping waste. The Bill would enable the GLC to demolish or clear these areas and to build new buildings on these sites often considerably greater than the cost of using a "green field".

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Document on the elderly

Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, said in a written reply—The Government hope to publish the discussion document on the elderly this spring. It will be concerned with the quality of life and well-being of all elderly people and within that context will cover a wide variety of issues such as preparation for retirement, the role of the elderly in society, income, leisure and employment facilities, family and community support, and services for those requiring help including housing, transport, and education, as well as health and personal social services.

The document is intended to provide a basis for comment and for public debate to assist the Government in preparing a White Paper on the elderly which is due to follow in 1979. The Secretary of State for Social Services (Mr David Ennals) was considering the Bill. The Secretary of State for Social Services (Mr David Ennals) was considering the Bill. The Secretary of State for Social Services (Mr David Ennals) was considering the Bill.

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Power game to win back control of the left from the Socialists

BARCLAYS

OVERSEAS

Somalia mobilizes civilians to face invasion threat and again urges the West to supply arms

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Feb 9

The Somali Government has decided to mobilize the civilian population in expectation of an invasion of its territory by Ethiopian troops supported by Cuban and Russian military personnel. Mr. Abdullahi Salaad Hassan, the Minister of Information, told a press conference in Mogadishu today.

He added that Somalia was considering committing its armed forces to the war in the Ogaden.

He repeated Somalia's plea for arms and assistance to meet the Ethiopian threat, and said that the air raids on Hargeisa and Berbera earlier this week were a preliminary to the expected assault by ground forces.

His reference to committing Somali forces in the Ogaden does not change the Somali position that the fighting inside Ethiopia is by the Western Somali Liberation Front.

Somalia makes no secret of its moral and material support for the Front, but has always denied Ethiopian allegations that regular Somali troops are involved and that the Front is fully controlled by the Somali Government.

Somalia, with a population of 3,000,000 has an army of about 30,000 men. The mobilization plan is an indication of the seriousness with which Somalia views its position, in spite of repeated claims by the

Western Somali Liberation Front that its forces are holding their ground against air and ground attacks by Ethiopian, Cuban and Soviet Forces.

Ethiopia has about 40,000 regular troops, but has already mobilized a militia of 80,000. Sources estimate that there are 3,000 Cubans and 1,500 Soviet military personnel operating with the Ethiopian forces.

Recent reports say that several thousand more Cubans are on their way by sea.

Somalia has claimed that the Ethiopians plan to drive back the Liberation Front forces from the north of the Ogaden, then to move into northern Somalia and take Hargeisa and Berbera. This would cut Somalia in two.

Mr Hassan said that if there were an attempt to annex northern Somalia, then Somalia would have no alternative but to put its troops into the conflict.

Repeating pleas for arms and military support from the West and from Arab countries, he said: "We are no match for Soviet and Cuban armed forces." So far Somalia had received no external military assistance.

Somalia was willing to negotiate for a peaceful solution. It is the Russians who are waging the war, and they will not let it go.

The Liberation Front gave no further details of the fight-

ing in the Ogaden today, but there are reports that its forces are still in position and are not retreating.

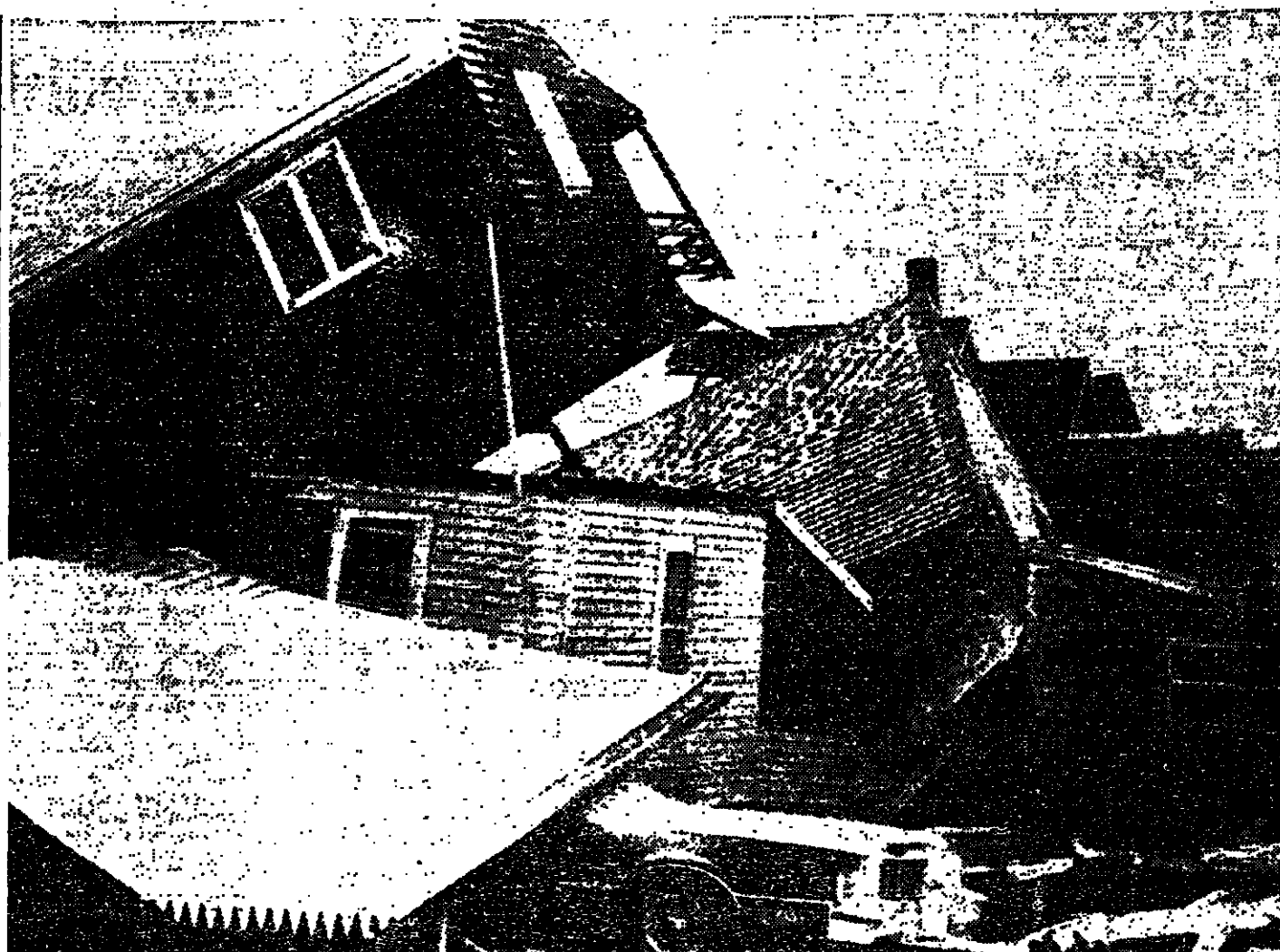
British attitude: Britain would review its attitude to Somalia's requests for arms if Ethiopian troops crossed the frontier into Somalia. Whitehall sources indicated yesterday (Roger Berthoud writes). Dr. Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has not replied formally to the plea.

Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and the United States have been coordinating their policies on the Horn of Africa. The Soviet Union has been left in no doubt that any infringement of Somalia's territorial integrity by Soviet or Cuban-backed Ethiopian troops would be a very serious matter leading to a rapid review of arms policy.

Britain's reluctance to supply arms to Somalia springs largely from its fear that the forces of Somali nationalism aim at securing a part of Kenya as well as the Ogaden.

On the other hand, the Foreign Office does not want to give the Soviet Union the idea that Britain has opted out of the area, especially over the issue of Somalia's territorial integrity.

The Western powers have also been asked to mediate in the dispute between Somalia and Ethiopia. It is understood that Nigeria has been active in the matter on behalf of the Organization of African Unity.



Blizzard-wrecked homes: Stacked on each other like playing cards, houses along the coast front at Cedar Point in Scituate, Massachusetts, bear witness to the damage done along the New England coast by the snow storms, high winds and surging tides. More than 11,000 fled from their homes. As federal troops began helping to dig the

rest of the north east of the United States out of its snow blanket Governor Michael Dukakis, of Massachusetts, placed the clean-up cost of his state at tens of millions of dollars. After a helicopter tour of Boston, hit by 27in of snow, he estimated that 3,000 cars and lorries littered Route 128, the ring road skirting the city. On the other side

of the country, northern California braced for a fifth rainstorm in a series that have filled one-day reservoirs to their brims, and made rivers overflow. Several places in Marin County, until recently rationing water, had a measure of relief from more than 2in. In the California Sierra, blizzard conditions, closed roads.—UPI

Syrian tank join in battle for Beirut

Beirut, Feb 9.—The Syrian Army threw heavy tanks into battle today against Lebanese forces in a third day of fighting in the city.

Clashes were reported between elements of the Lebanese army—being rebuilt after 1975-76 civil war—and Syrian troops who halted war 15 months ago under Arab League peace-keeping mandate. These clashes were the suburb of Payat where the flare-up began.

Beirut, Israel, right commanders said the Syrian had been trying to move forces into the district Ashrafieh, in the heart of Christian sector, but they been stopped by fierce resistance.

Rightist fighters said Syrian soldiers were in when their jeep was hit by rocket-propelled grenades, the Christian district of al-Rummal, one of the battle fronts.

A doctor at one hospital said 24 casualties had been in this morning. Some badly wounded.

Fighting slackened overnight. But from the edge Ashrafieh, a heavy assault was launched by the Syrian tanks and rocket-propelled grenades.

Reliable rightwing sources said the Syrians were now armed with sophisticated weapons, including Soviet-built T-72 tanks to the eastern hills overlooking Beirut on three routes.

Anti-Syrian feeling at the Christian population has been fanned by a Syrian assault on the leadership of the National Liberal Front.

Mr Camille Chamoun, former president who leads the National Liberal Front today: "When the Syrian came to Lebanon it was to enforce law and order."

He said the Syrians were not a neutral force, but a force of occupation.

The clashes erupted on 1 day when members of the Lebanese Army, now reconstituted chiefly from not prominently involved the civil war, objected to a Syrian roadblock on Fayyadieh barracks.

No reliable figures on casualties were available, but rightist commanders who they could be high.

In southern Lebanon it was reported that Syrian troops exchanged heavy machine gun fire with Israeli forces.

The frontiers with Israel, with Palestinian guerrillas, their leftist allies.—Reuters

Ethiopians told of 'Nato guilt'

From David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent
Addis Ababa, Feb 9

An open hatred for the Western powers, focused on Nato, has now become a basic theme of what the Ethiopians regard as "objective reality."

Claims that Nato has intervened not just to back the Somali forces in the Ogaden, but in a concerted campaign against the Ethiopian revolution, are repeated in the capital.

The strength of this feeling is such that it is likely to be a long time before Britain and other countries will be seen as anything but "class enemies".

Western embassies strive in vain to counter the official view of their misconduct.

"The Nato forces are waging war against us, using every means they can to dismember our territory and destroy the

unity of the country," Mr Gelu Tekle, the vice-president of the trade union movement, said today, reflecting the prevailing line. He singled out the United States, West Germany, France, Britain and Canada as the culprits, describing them as "fascist" and "reactionary forces."

Three of Mr Tekle's senior colleagues have been shot dead in cold blood in the wave of repression in recent months in Addis Ababa.

This sort of experience of "living through the revolutionary process" helps to explain the widespread and passionate conviction of Western guilt, though evidence seems to rest more on ideology than on fact.

"Their involvement is no secret," Mr Tekle claimed. Asked to explain his assertions in more depth, he said: "The

Nato powers represent the counter-revolutionary forces of imperialism. By this counter-revolution they hope to arrest the Ethiopian revolution. For feudal and reactionary forces a direct confrontation with the workers is inevitable."

Nato, he said, the expansionist Mogadishu regime with its guns, he added, "It is not a struggle against local interests, it is against mankind in general," Mr Tekle said.

Ethiopian public opinion is incensed at western failure to condemn Somalia's "wanton aggression" in crossing the border into Ethiopia, consequently the Ethiopian position remains that it intends to drive the Somali forces from the Ogaden before it will consider any kind of negotiations.

The talks, which lasted for two and a half hours today, had seemed still to be in deadlock. Sources said Bishop Abel Muzorewa of the United African National Council was

opposing separate voting rolls for whites in a majority-rule Parliament.

But today's meeting was not as acrimonious as yesterday's and the parties have agreed to meet again tomorrow. A conference breakdown, which seemed possible yesterday, seems to have faded for the time being.

Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, is attending an army parade in Gwelo in the Rhodesian Midlands tomorrow morning and he may take the opportunity to indicate his thinking on recent political developments.

Meanwhile, Mr Rowan Cronje, the Minister for Manpower, has announced that more Africans are to be called up for military service. About four fifths of the Rhodesian Security Forces are black now, but these are all volunteers except for a number of conscripts who were called up last year.

The Government now plans to call up about 220 black apprentices over 16 for national service. However, like their white Asian and Coloured counterparts, they will have their service deferred for this year and will therefore only be available for call-up from January, 1979.

The minister said that the question of involving other categories of African youths was still under review. There is a strong feeling among the white community over the general policy of not drafting Africans for any form of military service.

Mr Sithole sees real progress in Salisbury

From Frederick Cleary
Salisbury, Feb 9

The Rev Ndabangisi Sithole, leader of a faction of the African National Council, struck a surprising note of optimism after today's session of the Rhodesian talks on an internal settlement. He said: "There is real progress. We are coming to grips with anything that is happening. We hope very soon we shall be able to sign an agreement... next week."

The talks, which lasted for two and a half hours today, had seemed still to be in deadlock. Sources said Bishop Abel Muzorewa of the United African National Council was

opposing separate voting rolls for whites in a majority-rule Parliament.

But today's meeting was not as acrimonious as yesterday's and the parties have agreed to meet again tomorrow. A conference breakdown, which seemed possible yesterday, seems to have faded for the time being.

Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, is attending an army parade in Gwelo in the Rhodesian Midlands tomorrow morning and he may take the opportunity to indicate his thinking on recent political developments.

Meanwhile, Mr Rowan Cronje, the Minister for Manpower, has announced that more Africans are to be called up for military service. About four fifths of the Rhodesian Security Forces are black now, but these are all volunteers except for a number of conscripts who were called up last year.

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Mr Sadat wins American friends

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 9

The television cameras and the reporters were all lined up on the White House lawn yesterday afternoon. There was a small lecture, and the Presidents of the United States and Egypt came out to say goodbye in the most public manner possible.

Mr Carter has a well-known liking for hyperbole, and Mr Sadat is not particularly susceptible to flattery, but praise of this sort, from the most powerful man in the world, with all the world watching, must have been a manna to the ears of the Egyptian leader.

"I am honoured to be with the world's foremost peace-maker," Mr Carter said, "and the peace-makers shall be called the children of God."

Mr Sadat then promised that he would persevere in his efforts to bring about a permanent peace in the Middle East even though, as Mr Carter

had reminded him, the way would be long and difficult. The two of them had every reason to be pleased with themselves. The Americans can look forward to a time when peace will be safely signed and Egypt will become America's main ally in the Middle East. A combination of Egypt and Saudi Arabia is worth more on the world stage than any number of precarious pseudo-Marxist regimes in Africa.

For almost 20 years the Egyptians based their politics upon hostility to Israel and alliance with the Soviet Union, and Mr Sadat believes that it did his country no good whatever. He needs more than kind words on a Washington law, however. He needs money and he needs arms.

He did as well in the halls of Congress as he did with Mr Carter at Camp David. When he went to the House international affairs committee, he was greeted effusively by Mr James Wright, majority leader

in the House. Mr Wright was in Jerusalem, coincidentally, when President Sadat visited it, and has clearly kept a lively memory of that event.

Mr Sadat charmed everybody. Members of Congress famous for their defence of Israel's interests, such as Senator Henry Jackson, all praised him. He will get all the economic assistance he can absorb, he will get American arms once peace with Israel is assured and there is a very good chance that he will get some of the aircraft he wants before then.

In fact he was treated much the way Mr Mair used to be treated here. The Egyptians are far too wise to imagine that Egypt can replace Israel in America's affections, but Mr Sadat has now won by conciliation what his predecessor, Mr Anwar Sadat, had lost by confrontation.

His Arab colleagues and spokesmen (and he himself in earlier days) used to demand as a right, with threats to back the demand, America to now really even-handed between the two sides.

Defiance at Mandela sentence

From Our Correspondent
Bloemfontein, Feb 9

Police in Bloemfontein today broke up a spontaneous Black Power demonstration which formed around the black activist leader, Mrs Winnie Mandela, after she was sentenced to six months jail suspended for four years for breaking her banning order.

Six blacks, one a journalist, were arrested as about 50 blacks, mostly women, paraded through the centre of the city shouting the slogan: "Amandla" (power) and raising clenched fists in Black Power salutes.

In the centre of the crowd was Mrs Mandela, who is 44. She was dressed in a black skirt and green blouse, the colours of the banned African National Congress of which her husband, Nelson Mandela, who is serving a life jail sentence, is leader.

As soon as he delivered the verdict Mr Chris Steytler, the Bloemfontein regional magistrate, left the court. Immediately Mrs Mandela turned to blacks in the public gallery behind her, and gave them the Black Power slogan and salute.

In passing the suspended sentence, Mr Steytler had warned Mrs Mandela to observe the conditions of her banning order.

She is forbidden from attending any gathering which, in terms of the law, means a meeting of more than two people. But within seconds of her sentence she was flouting her contempt for both the verdict and South African law with her salute to the crowd. A few minutes later she emerged on a fire escape.

Lawyers persuaded her to go inside the court building again, but as she emerged from the front doors waiting blacks surrounded her, chanting and singing the Black Power anthem, Nkosi Sikelele Afrika.

As the singing, shouting crowd passed a police station about six plainclothesmen rushed out and roughly seized as many of the marchers as they could.

Crucial New York meeting may settle Namibia's fate

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 9

Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, will join four other Western foreign ministers here on Saturday to try to devise a formula for independence for Namibia (South-West Africa).

Diplomats from the five countries began preliminary meetings today with representatives of South Africa and the South-West African People's Organisation (Swapo).

Realistic observers admit that the odds are heavily against progress at these talks. Some fear that a failure to advance the negotiations will end the five-power initiative of which this weekend's meetings are the climax.

The other four countries involved are the United States, France, Canada and West Germany. As the Western members of the Security Council, they were asked by the council to try to work out an independence formula.

If there is no agreement at these talks the South Africans—represented here by Mr R. F. Botha, their Foreign Minister—might decide to go it alone and hold elections in Namibia.

The five foreign ministers are banking on their realizing that this would only provoke violence from Swapo exiles based in black African countries, who are supported

by the Russians and the Cubans.

The five have identified three main areas of difficulty. The first is the question of the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia.

South Africa accepts the need to withdraw some troops but the two sides are miles apart on how many should remain and where they should be kept. The five suggest that the troops be confined to a small area in the north, but the South Africans oppose this.

There is also disagreement about the number of United Nations troops to be sent to the territory during the run-up to independence, and their relationship with South African forces.

Second, there is the issue of the release of political prisoners. The United Nations wants the South Africans to release all Namibian prisoners to enable them to take part in elections. The South Africans reply that in return they want the Tanzanians and Zambians to release Namibian black prisoners.

Third, the length of the run-up to elections is at issue. South Africa wants them held quickly, but the United Nations representative must have time to see that conditions exist for fair elections.

Cholera outbreak kills 300 in Tanzania

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Feb 9

An outbreak of cholera which has affected large areas of Tanzania over the past four months has already caused 300 deaths. More than 5,000 cases have so far been reported to the health authorities in an area of thousands of square miles.

Health officials say that the situation has never been out of control, but severe measures have been necessary, with whole districts put under quarantine.

Celebrations marking the first anniversary of Tanzania's ruling Revolutionary Party were cur-

tailed recently to avoid the risk of a cholera outbreak in the new inland capital of Dodoma. Party delegates and guests from other parts of the country were not allowed to travel to Dodoma for the celebrations.

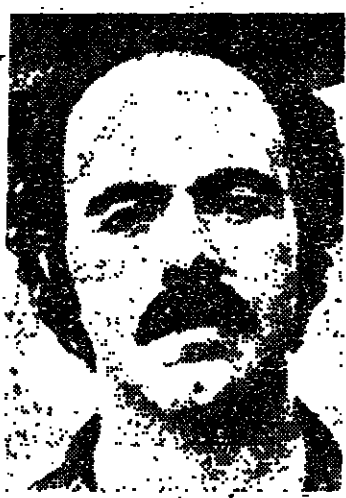
Travel into and out of districts affected by cholera has been restricted, and the sale of green vegetables has been banned in Dar es Salaam.

Cholera has affected eight of the 20 regions of the Tanzanian mainland, ranging from Tanga and Kilimanjaro in the north to Iringa and Morwa in the south.

Health experts said that the disease had been carried by travellers. There was no other explanation why it should appear in such a short time in widely scattered areas.

The disease had spread quickly because of the poor sanitation and the general lack of knowledge of the dangers of cholera, among most of the population.

The outbreak has caused concern in neighbouring countries. Tanzanians are not being allowed into border areas of Kenya without inoculation certificates.



Ned York, aged 37, a bit-part actor recently seen in the "Starsky and Hutch" television series, was detained in Los Angeles yesterday on suspicion of being involved in the killing of 12 young women. He called police to his Hollywood Hills home and made a "rambling, incoherent" statement about what he termed the Hillside Strangler murders.

Criticism of settlements rejected by Mr Begin

Geneva, Feb 9.—Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, rejected the American position that Jewish settlements in occupied territories are illegal and present an obstacle to peace.

"This position is negative and my Government continues to maintain that the settlements are legitimate and legal," he said.

Commenting on the American statement that followed the talks between President Carter and President Sadat of Egypt, Mr Begin said he agreed with the part of it which said that a Middle East peace must be

a genuine peace resting on agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

Mr Begin's statement was released through his press spokesman as the Prime Minister addressed 450 leading European Jews.

His 48-hour visit to Geneva is intended to raise support for an appeal on behalf of 45,000 underprivileged Israeli families.

Security was strict with entry to the ultra modern Jewish Religious and Cultural Centre in Geneva by invitation only.

President Assad reelected for seven-year term

Damascus, Feb 9.—President Assad of Syria was reelected to a second seven-year term.

Assad's victory was stated today. Of the Syrians who voted in the plebiscite yesterday 99.6 per cent said "yes" to his reelection.

The turnout was of about 97 per cent of the electorate. Diplomats said that some Syrian officials had been concerned that severe inflation and reports of corruption in the Government might keep voters away.

Today's statement said that of the nearly four million people who went to the polls only 4,798 had voted against President Assad, and that 11,168 empty ballots had been cast.

The reelection was a foregone conclusion since his nomination was unopposed but importance was attached to the turnout.

South African dancers seek asylum

Toronto, Feb 9.—Eight black South African dancers are seeking political asylum in Canada, because they fear they will be jailed if they return home, one of the dancers says.

Miss Poppy Gwebu, aged 21, said the five men and three women would probably end up in jail because they had performed in a show containing criticism of the South African Government.

However, a white spokesman for the other 11 dancers in the troupe said the 11 were eager to return home. One black dancer said: "They can arrest me if they want, but home is home."

The dancers have planned to leave Canada tomorrow when their work permit expires.—AP

Chad rebels put back killing of French hostage

Lagos, Feb 9.—Chad rebels holding Christian Masse, French student, said today they had put back his execution date from February 12 to February 20.

A group claiming to represent the Chad National Liberation Front, seized Mr Masse, aged 21, and his Swiss companion, André Kummerling, aged 27, south-western Chad on January 18.

The group has accused two of spying and imposed conditions for their release including ransom payments equal to about £1m for each. The announcement of the postponement was delivered to Agence France-Press bureau.

Drug traffickers prosper from Lebanon crisis

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Feb 9

The troubles in Lebanon are being exploited by cannabis producers, according to the annual report of the United Nations International Narcotics Control Board, which notes a sharp increase in illicit production there.

Greater quantities are reaching Egypt, it says, and there have been huge seizures of Lebanese cannabis in Western Europe. The board also expresses concern over persistent reports of illicit opium poppy cultivation in Lebanon, which increased after Turkey's effective measures to suppress clandestine opium crops.

One effect of this has been a big increase in drug addiction in Lebanon itself.

The report urges more effective action against traffickers. "Extensive research work indicates that cannabis is a step-by-step ladder for the individual or for society," it says.

Another disturbing development is the appearance of "Middle Eastern" heroin, in small quantities, in Europe. The board thinks it is being made from opium produced in Pakistan or Afghanistan, where illicit poppy cultivation is on the increase.

The board found that South-East Asia law enforcement is making an impact on opium production and trafficking. It says that increasing quantities of cocaine and heroin from coca leaf grown mainly in Bolivia and Peru are appearing in illicit traffic.

STANLEY GIBBONS COLLECTORS EXHIBITION

an event not to be missed

Stanley Gibbons Limited, the foremost specialists in collectors' items, will be holding their Collectors Exhibition in Birmingham and Leicester next week.

Visitors will be able to see displays of rare collectors' items, publications and special exhibits organised by the Post Office and the Crown Agents.

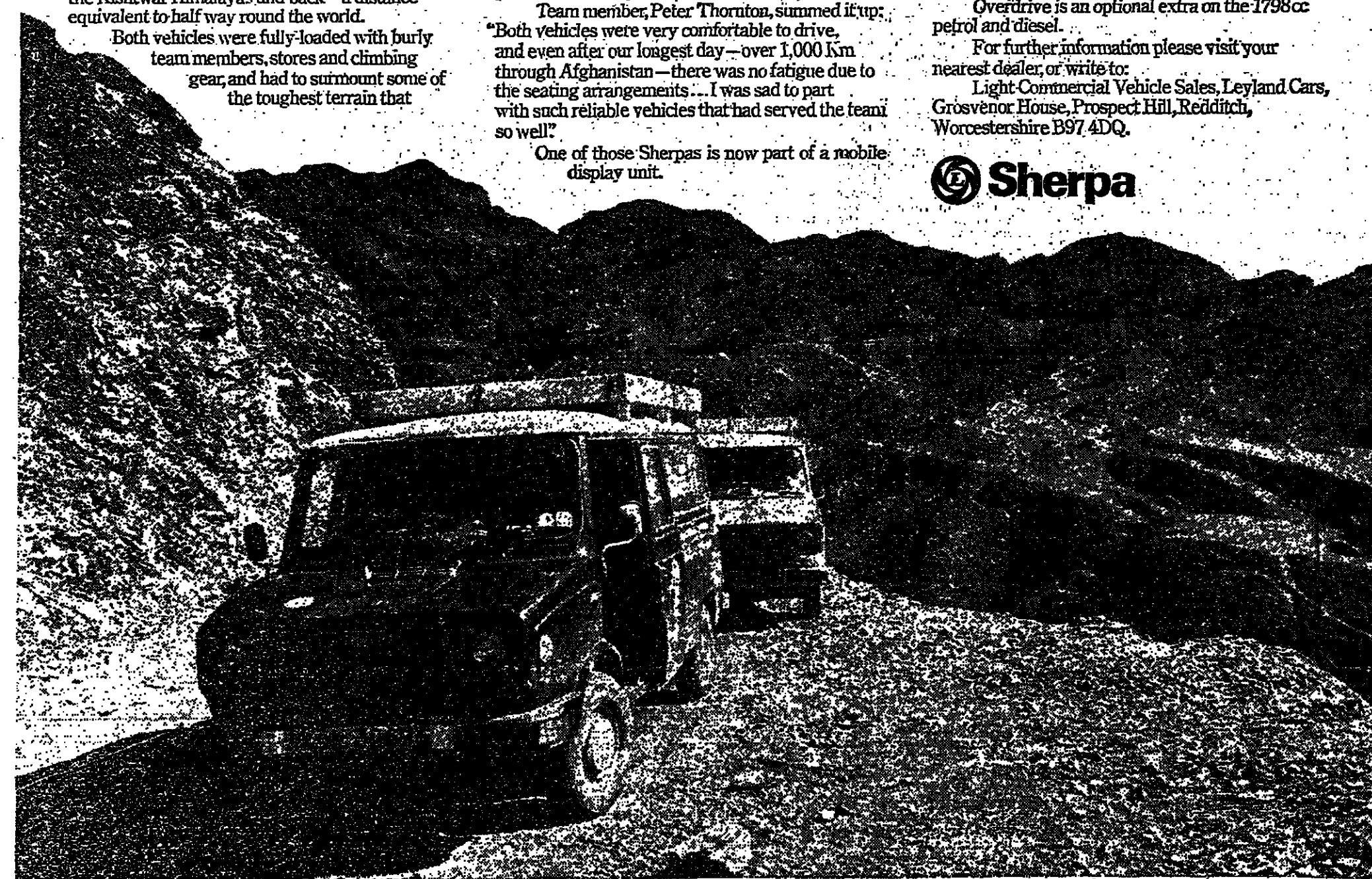
There will be experts on hand to advise on collecting and selling rare stamps, philatelic material, letters, coins, banknotes, maps, documents and playing cards.

If you have something interesting to sell or would like to add to your own collection from the extensive stock also on display we shall be glad to see you.

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SPORT

Cricket

Hendrick doubt delays team announcement for Wellington Test

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Wellington, Feb 9

England are waiting until tomorrow to announce their team for the first Test match against New Zealand. The reason for this is the uncertainty over the fitness of the England captain, Ian Botham. Botham has been out of the team for some time due to a leg injury. The England selectors are waiting to see if Botham is fit enough to play. If he is not, they will have to choose a replacement. The first Test match is scheduled for tomorrow at the Basin Ground in Wellington.

A year ago England were on the eve of a Test match in Bombay. If Botham plays tomorrow and is fit, he will be the only England player to have played in a Test match in New Zealand.

Australians make Greig pay dearly for his gamble

Melbourne, Feb 9.—The World XI captain, Tony Greig, gambled on catching the Australian XI on a tricky wicket when he sent them in to bat on the first day of the final World Series Cricket match here today. But his ploy failed. At the close of a day shortened by 15 minutes of rain the Australians were 175 for one wicket.

Greig had hoped that the wicket, although unaffected by the rain, may have sweated during many hours under the covers. However, the opening batsmen, David and McCosker, made the World XI pay dearly for dropped catches. They put on 137 in 158 minutes before Davis was trapped leg before for 84 by Garner.

Nothing went right for Greig in the afternoon as Roberts and Daniel limped off with ankle injuries. Roberts suffered a recurrence of the injury he sustained four years ago and Daniel was injured when he slipped and fell during his sixth over.

The loss of these two was a big

reel it off, here is the England batting order as it was then at the Basin Ground, Wellington, Feb 9.

England's batting order was: Ian Botham (captain), Geoffrey Boycott, Graham Gooch, Mike Hendrick, John Lloyd, Peter May, Ian Smith, and Tony Greig. The bowling order was: Dennis Lillee, Ian Chappell, and Dennis Lillee.

NEW ZEALAND XI: R. Anderson, J. Wright, G. P. Howarth, J. M. Parker, M. G. Burgess (captain), N. E. Condon, W. Lees, R. Hadlee, D. F. Howie, R. O. Collinge, E. J. Chumbley and S. Boock.

Earlier start for Pakistan

The Pakistan tour of England will start one day earlier than scheduled, their match against Worcestershire beginning on Tuesday, April 25. This will give the touring team a day's rest before

their second game at Leicester. Their provisional match against Ireland in Dublin on June 6 and 7 has been cancelled, enabling them to relax after the first Test at Birmingham before meeting Hampshire.

Call for ban on Sussex altered to a fine

Nottinghamshire and Lancashire are no longer calling for the expulsion of Sussex from the competition. The original proposal by the Nottinghamshire and Lancashire Cricket Board, though they are proposing that the county be fined £20,000. The original proposal by the Nottinghamshire and Lancashire Cricket Board, though they are proposing that the county be fined £20,000.

Instead, it calls for "the revision of the board's constitution and rules at its August meeting to provide for the exclusion of members from the board or from any or all of its competitions." This move is seen as a way to ensure that clubs can be dealt with if they are found to be in breach of the rules.

Stanley Allen, the Sussex secretary, declined to make any comment. Should Sussex be fined it will be for the second time within seven months. Last time they were fined £500 after allowing a player to be expelled.

Yorkshire, last month, called for disciplinary action to be taken against Greig for derogatory remarks made by him against Geoffrey Boycott in an Australian newspaper. Soon after this, Sussex was expelled from the competition and only on Wednesday named Arnold Long in his place.

Though Sussex had gone a long way towards making amends during the past two weeks, this was not the reason given by Nottinghamshire for the change. It was to stop disrupting the county programme with its effect on sponsorship.

"We have been put under no pressure in modifying our proposed disciplinary action for Greig," said Allen. "We realize that our original resolution would have disrupted the whole of the county programme. We do not want to be seen as having disrupted arrangements by sponsors, which is certainly something that we do not want. We certainly feel that Sussex should be heavily fined and this is still supported by Lancashire."

Golf

Factors that restore the claims of Sandwich as a matter of course

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

The South of England is to see the Open Golf championship again. It will return in 1981 to Royal St. George's, 32 years after it was last held there. In 1949 Bobby Locke won the first of his four titles there after a play-off against Harry Bradshaw, but although the excitement was great the crowds were not and Sandwich gained thereafter a reputation for inaccessibility in rather the same way as Carnoustie did at the time in Scotland.

Another factor also aided against it. This was not so much its length, which at 6,728 yards was in fact longer than Troon at the time and St. Andrews, as the number of blind shots and the lack of balance in a course whose first nine holes contained three short holes and measured 3,177 yards.

The situation has now changed in many respects. Perhaps more than anything the experience of a tournament here will have given the championship committee of the Royal and Ancient, who issued the statement yesterday, the sense of how much depends on the weather. Scoring for two days at Carnoustie, the longest of the championship venues, was in calm

dry weather lower than one would normally expect from a course hundreds of yards shorter. When the Royal St. George's was held there three years, the winning score never broke 280.

Before 1981 automatic watering of the course will, understanding, be complete, including relevant areas of fairway. One important advantage of this will be to take the sting out of hard bumps in the fairway which can deflect the ball into a rougher hole. It is this, above all, to which even the best professionals, with some cause, have objected in the past.

Off the course the rigour of the Royal St. George's has been completed well before 1981, and the toll which delivered traffic so much over the limit bridge has already gone. Once the course has been reached parking presents no problem nor does the tinned village area. All in all, and remembering how Turnberry, founded the doubters, there is every chance that the Open's restored course in the south will justify the faith put in it. The three courses to be used for the final qualifying competitions will be the most prestigious and the Royal St. George's.

Briton shares lead with Taiwanese

Mandarin, Feb 9.—Ho Ming-Chung, of Taiwan, and Howard Clark, of Britain, today tied for the lead in the first round of the \$50,000 Philippines Masters golf championship here.

Clark, aged 34, from York, birdied the seventh, 12th, and 17th holes over the 7,244-yard course. He went out in 35 and returned in 34.

Clark's score of 69, Howard Clark (Taiwan), 70. Ho Ming-Chung (Taiwan), 70. Clark's score of 69, Howard Clark (Taiwan), 70. Ho Ming-Chung (Taiwan), 70.

Oosterhuis one stroke off lead after fine round

Palm Springs, California, Feb 8.—David Graham of Australia eagled the final hole today for a six-under par and a one-stroke lead in the first round of the \$25,000 Bob Hope Desert golf tournament.

Graham, 34, from Sydney, Australia, birdied the 18th hole to finish with a score of 68. He was one stroke ahead of Oosterhuis, who finished with a score of 69.

Oosterhuis, 34, from the Netherlands, birdied his final two holes, sinking putts of three feet on each to finish with a score of 69.

LEADING SCORES: 68, David Graham (Australia); 69, Oosterhuis (Netherlands); 70, Ho Ming-Chung (Taiwan); 70, Clark (Britain); 71, Lee (South Korea); 72, Lee (South Korea); 73, Lee (South Korea); 74, Lee (South Korea); 75, Lee (South Korea); 76, Lee (South Korea); 77, Lee (South Korea); 78, Lee (South Korea); 79, Lee (South Korea); 80, Lee (South Korea); 81, Lee (South Korea); 82, Lee (South Korea); 83, Lee (South Korea); 84, Lee (South Korea); 85, Lee (South Korea); 86, Lee (South Korea); 87, Lee (South Korea); 88, Lee (South Korea); 89, Lee (South Korea); 90, Lee (South Korea); 91, Lee (South Korea); 92, Lee (South Korea); 93, Lee (South Korea); 94, Lee (South Korea); 95, Lee (South Korea); 96, Lee (South Korea); 97, Lee (South Korea); 98, Lee (South Korea); 99, Lee (South Korea); 100, Lee (South Korea); 101, Lee (South Korea); 102, Lee (South Korea); 103, Lee (South Korea); 104, Lee (South Korea); 105, Lee (South Korea); 106, Lee (South Korea); 107, Lee (South Korea); 108, Lee (South Korea); 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The town that puts France at stake

The French Elections

M. François Mitterrand, the French socialist leader, was quite clear about it on Monday night. "If we take Lisieux," he said, "we will win France and the left will be the majority in March."

His audience of stolid Normans rose to their feet and clapped his words to the echo. The return message to their chosen leader was equally clear. Lisieux would fall; nothing now could stop the victory of the left.

Such a promise would have been unthinkable not all that long ago. Lisieux is the very epitome of conservative, rural France. A town of 27,000 people, the largest centre of an agricultural region for miles in any direction, the hub of an area which has been a bastion of Gaullist belief since before General de Gaulle was born.

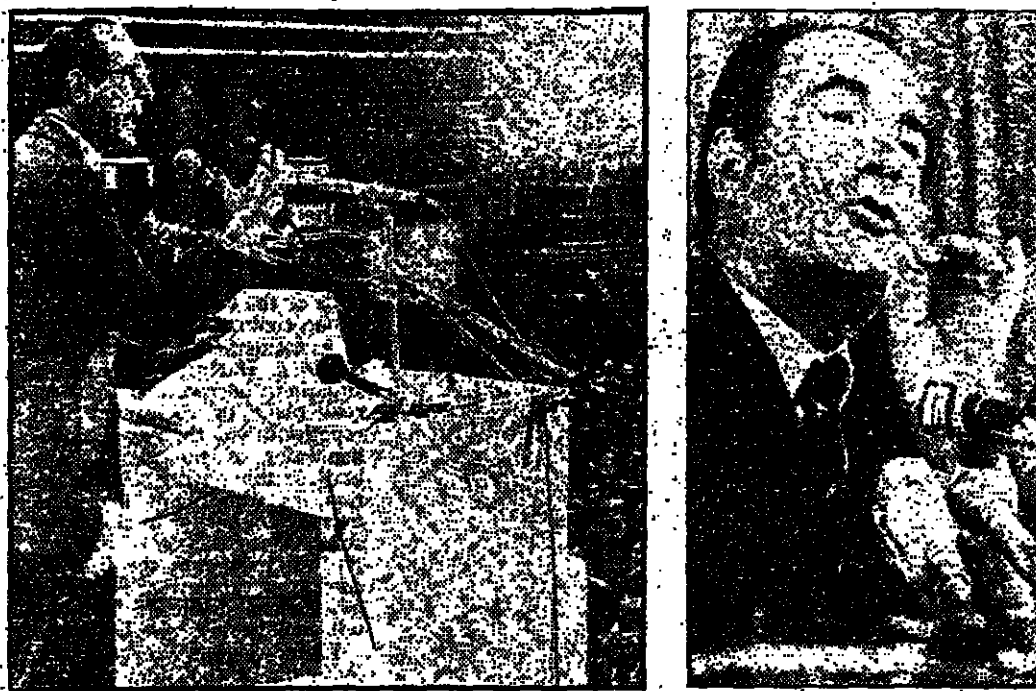
Yet at the last legislative elections in 1973 the sitting Gaullist member of the town's main constituency, M. Robert Bisson, only held off his socialist challenger by 2,500 votes out of the 40,000 cast. Last March in the municipal elections M. Bisson lost his job as mayor after 24 years—and although the left won only seven of the 27 council seats they had gained four more than they held before.

The growth of the left vote in the town, as in the rest of France, has been slow but seemingly inexorable, and since the socialist party became a recognizable political force six years ago the growth has gained momentum.

The socialist appeal lies partly in its success in persuading voters that most of the things that are wrong with the town stem from M. Bisson's 24 years as mayor.

Losing last March has not shaken his confidence that he will win this March. Only a quarter of the councillors are from the left, he points out, and when the Leveuxiens have to decide on the one man they want to represent them, he is certain they will find him the right man to continue doing the job.

Nevertheless in M. Mitterrand's eyes Lisieux is ripe for the taking. To try to spike the Gaullist guns he agreed to fit in a speech to the town very eve of a well-planned visit by M. Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader. For possibly the only time in the campaign the leaders of the two main rival parties were therefore scheduled to speak from the same



M. Chirac and M. Mitterrand: warm cheers in a cold hall.

platform a mere 24 hours apart. The Lisieux exhibition hall where the meetings were held is a couple of miles out of town, high up where the wind can catch it. On any night in February it can be expected to be one of the coldest places in which to hold a meeting, but it is the only one round about big enough to hold a large crowd.

Monday night—Mitterrand night—was no exception. The 1,500 level Socialists who turned up huddled shivering in their coats on the hard rows of chairs ranged in front of the rostrum. They were men for the most part, of all ages although mostly young. Here and there a baby cried from cold, and a woman in its mother's arms.

The stage front was plastered with posters, two giant ones of M. Mitterrand in a camel hair coat formed a backdrop. A single red rose—symbol of the party—stood on the long trestle table. Bank on time at 6.30 the muzak was turned off and the meeting began, although there was no sign of M. Mitterrand. Socialist candidates made ritual attacks on the government for a quarter of an hour or so, and then the main attraction was nowhere to be seen. The crowd clapped politely (perhaps keeping their hands warm?) at the right places.

M. Bisson's socialist opponent, M. Henri Delisle, an English professor at Caen University with the belly and beard of a Henry VIII, observed with some wit that President Giscard d'Estaing might have slowed up the Marseillaise but he had failed to slow up unemployment and inflation.

The crowd clapped again but some persisted beyond the normal time for such a joke. M. Delisle looked up surprised and noticed his leader scolding towards him, wearing the

camel hair coat in the poster, with his collar turned up against the cold and a soft felt hat firmly down over his ears. A few flashbulbs went off before he reached the stage, M. Delisle welcomed him as he shook hands all round and then he finished off his speech.

M. Mitterrand, hatless but coat collar well high round his neck, took his place at the rostrum. He had no notes; he began quickly, flaring almost; boldly to outline party history. The crowd, flattered in their chairs and no doubt many wondering why they had left their hearths to endure this.

But M. Mitterrand is no mean orator. Unhappily he began to cut into the government and its record and the crowd laughed. Frankly he discussed the problems of the left as he might with a friend. But there was no real need, it was clear, for M. Mitterrand to worry, what had been a certain victory was still probable if they all remained loyal. And then M. Mitterrand poured his warm praise all over them.

They were the true "rassemblement" of France, the little people who had been forgotten by so many governments, who were abused by the big industrialists for whom they made the profit. They were the women of France who worked an average 86 hour week as housewives for nothing. They were the backs of France, the people who were going to win. Then there would be the change of society, they all deserved. The common programme was a reality. He held up his right hand. "Here is the very hand that signed it."

The crowd stirred round to seize and shake that hand as he left, any doubts among them were now gone. M. Mitterrand climbed back into his car and made off across Normandy. He had two

more speeches to make before bedtime. The organizers closed the meeting with an appeal for contributions towards the 4,000 franc hire charge for the hall.

The next morning the highly organized Gaullist Party machine took over. The stage was cleared of its ratty collection of posters and the larger than life pictures of M. Mitterrand. In their place, against a blue background, went up the big rally banner of the Gaullists. Along the front edge of the stage bouquets of red carnations, white gladioli and blue irises were arranged in patriotic floral tributes.

Clusters of tricolours on shields of the Republic were placed against all the pillars. A tricolour was hung from the rostrum. Confidently more chairs were set out behind the ones used by the socialists. Four huge, expensive heaters were switched on to take the chill off the air.

Seven o'clock the time the meeting was due to start—came and went but the platform remained deserted. Pop music blared from the speakers. The crowd drew to fill the seating laid out. There were more women than the previous evening and the clothes they all wore seemed brighter than the drab blues and blacks that had been dominant then.

Some students arrived in red Fresian bonnets, waving banners and flags, people were dazed here and there meeting friends and chatting socially. Compared to the drab cold setting of the night before there was a near carnival atmosphere.

Three quarters of an hour later the crowd of cars pulled up outside. The music stopped, the students lined up on either side of the doorway ready to wave their flags. A voice over the loudspeaker

asked everyone to welcome "our president, Jacques Chirac" and people stood on chairs and began to chant his name.

In he came coatless and smiling in a blaze of flash bulbs, while the flags waved and the crowd chanted. He pulled himself arm over arm from handshake to handshake like nothing so much as a man climbing a rope. As he stepped on to the stage the rows of arc lights were switched on. The Jacques Chirac show was about to take off.

Seated in the middle of the stage with his entourage around him he proceeded with breathless speed and energy to run everything, introducing candidates and helping them to cheers of appreciation from the crowd as they spoke. Then it was his turn at the rostrum. There was a word or two of praise for everyone on stage who had not yet been clapped and the speech proper began.

He singled out M. Mitterrand for his most scathing attacks, questioning how a man with such a record as a minister could now presume to demand the right to govern France. The common programme put France in peril and the partners of the left, like the sorcerer's apprentice, would unleash something they would be unable to control. Socialism was an irreversible disease, he said. If France caught it the country could never be healed.

France itself was at stake and France was too great to be gambled on the throw of a dice. He called on the young—who he said had only ever known the prosperity of the Fifth Republic—not to let their country down and to stand against their bonnets and waved their flags. He called on everyone for a gigantic effort to warn and convince their friends of the perils they might face through apathy and the crowd cheered and chanted his name.

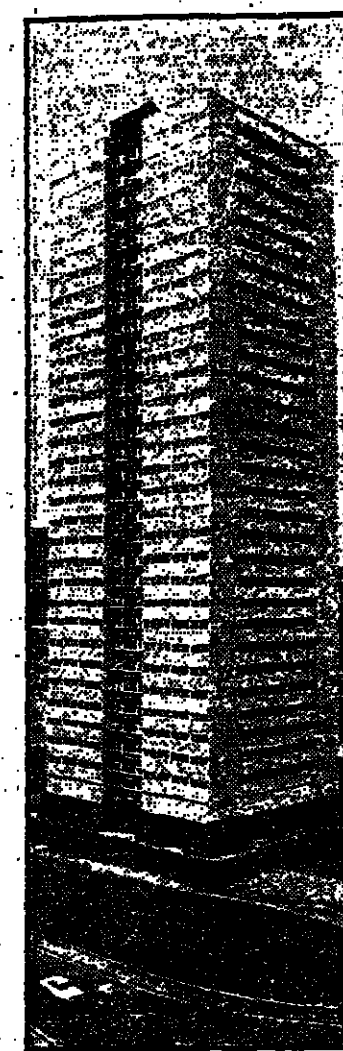
He finished by leading everyone in singing of the national anthem and an appeal for as many as possible to join his giant rally in Paris on Saturday. He had one more meeting to address before going home that night.

Nobody was asked to contribute to the cost of the hall, the flowers and the heating. Lisieux's two nights at the centre of national politics are over. M. Bisson and M. Delisle are left to argue over the unemployment figures. M. Bisson can take little comfort in the fact that there are nearly as many looking for jobs in the town now as there were in his majority in the last election.

M. Delisle must be worried that voting habits and the sheer organizational ability of the Gaullists could alone deprive him of victory.

Ian Murray

Are our planners quite so pettyminded?



High rise flats: apart from social and aesthetic drawbacks, tower blocks offered no appreciable savings in costs or gains in density

"Public disillusionment with planning is so widespread that one does not even feel obliged to document it. This malaise has far deeper than any cynicism over the rash of corruption across the country brought to light in recent years."

Thus begins a discussion paper published today by the Town and Country Planning Association. Its author is Maurice Ash, chairman of the association's executive committee, but it is said to be a "distillation" of more than two years of discussion among committee members.

Mr Ash acknowledges the widespread view that the breakdown of the planning system is direct consequence of the reform of local government, with its impossible division of responsibilities. But he argues that administrative chaos has only compounded the failure of planners to recognize their own functions and objectives.

Planning, by its negativity, has simply become associated with interference and bureaucracy, he says. By adopting an "atomistic" piecemeal approach, instead of viewing our towns and cities as a whole, planners have become enmeshed in detailed technicalities.

That is not to say that they should assume an Olympian pose and indulge in what he calls "corporate futurism". Planning is not concerned with the control of the future, but with the present reshaping of our physical surroundings to make them more agreeable and convenient.

Concentrating on the proper use of land

Rather than enter into judgments about society at large, planners should concentrate on their basic role, which is to determine the proper use of land. Mr Ash rightly recognizes that the Community Land Act and the Development Land Tax, so far from initiating a new era of "positive planning", as Mr John Silkin used to proclaim, have merely provided an added bonus for the Treasury.

As befits one so closely involved with an association which was the driving force behind the New Towns, Mr Ash believes strongly that intelligent planning is a vital factor in raising standards of living. Unfortunately, as he sees it, planners have interpreted their brief as the creation of a Utopia, in which even the smallest details should be subject to scrutiny.

But is it the planners who are to blame, or the system? Can the great majority, working at local government level be expected to fulfil their functions properly when they are constantly under constraint both from central government and from their own elected officials?

It is, after all, Whitehall or, to stretch a point, Parliament, which takes decisions not only on major projects, such as motorways and airports, but also, through the public inquiry system, on a host of lesser schemes. Local authorities' powers of discretion have been emasculated by a stream

of government directives with in deference to democratic planners' best laid schemes, but set at naught by a handful of curmudgeonly councillors.

Again, Mr Ash may well be right in warning planners against visualizing themselves as either futurists or sociologists. But planning must, to large extent, be based on predictions, and who else but planners should be entrusted with those predictions? Physical planning cannot be divorced from economic forecasting.

It is the inadequacy of such forecasting that has, in recent years, provided planners with many of their excuses. Because of inflated population estimates, local authorities were panicked into building tower blocks of flats, and into providing more schools and hospitals than are now seen to be needed.

Have they been nearly always wrong?

Mr Ash's concern, however, is not with programmes but with practice. In his view, planners have antagonised the public by appearing petty-minded and interfering. Others might think that they have forfeited confidence by being nearly always wrong.

Why, for instance, were huge, featureless housing estates ever considered preferable to streets with corner shops and pubs? Did we not see that tower blocks, apart from their social and aesthetic drawbacks, offered no appreciable savings in cost or gains in density?

Was it not evident that wholesale demolition of areas of mixed housing, commerce and industry would destroy local employment? When the run-down of London and Liverpool docks was foreseen a quarter of a century ago, why is it only now that alternative uses are being sought with something close to desperation?

Elementary questions, perhaps. But they are still being asked of those who, in the public view, have taken the easy way out, have preferred the straightforward and destructive to the complicated and constructive. And they are most of their lives in offices drawing prettily coloured maps and writing Structure Plans which few people will understand and fewer still want to read.

The growth of the planning profession has coincided with the destruction of traditional neighbourhoods, the wasting of great cities, the despoliation of the countryside, and increasing ugliness and monotony almost everywhere. Is it just coincidence?

John Young

Bernard Levin

The Force that drives them to see Star Wars

I have been to see *Star Wars*, and a wretched disappointment it was. It is technically inferior to *2001*, and lacking in imagination by comparison, too; moreover, the plot is incoherent and much of the dialogue unintelligible, and it is equipped with the least attractive hero and heroine I have ever seen in any film, not actually called *The Uglies*. Three things rescue it from complete unendurability: the presence of Sir Alec Guinness, whose part is a diluted version of Gandalf the benign wizard of *The Lord of the Rings*; a lovable little robot, which in turn is reminiscent of the famous Robby in *Forbidden Planet*; and an equally lovable reptile, presumably suggested by *Kung Fu*, which introduces the only touches of humour in what is otherwise a trackless desert of self-important seriousness.

Yet *Star Wars* has at the very least a sociological interest, and a good deal deeper than that. For the extraordinary success it has had in the United States (it does not

appear to have caught fire here in the same way) needs explaining, and since the success is inexplicable on its cinematic merits, it must be sought elsewhere.

The first thing we notice, in pursuing the search, is that a clear ethical distinction is drawn between the two warring sides, and that this distinction is more than the usual cops/robbers, cowboys/Indians or Nazis/Allies dichotomy that has been the staple of so many films in the past. A space empire, unquestioned evil, is being challenged by a group of rebels, who are making war upon it in the name of freedom, but of freedom extended into a fully moral dimension. Once we are given to understand the moral principles of the universe were guarded by a company of Samurai-like knights, of whom there are now only two survivors. One of them is the character played by Guinness; the other has forsaken his allegiance to virtue and thrown in his lot with the monstrous empire. (He too, incidentally, can be found in *The Lord of the Rings*; his

black helmet and visor, with no face to be seen, bring to mind immediately the Lord of the Nazgûl.)

The Black Rider flung back his hood, and behold! the little people who had been forgotten by so many governments, who were abused by the big industrialists for whom they made the profit. They were the women of France who worked an average 86 hour week as housewives for nothing. They were the backs of France, the people who were going to win. Then there would be the change of society, they all deserved. The common programme was a reality. He held up his right hand. "Here is the very hand that signed it."

The crowd stirred round to seize and shake that hand as he left, any doubts among them were now gone. M. Mitterrand climbed back into his car and made off across Normandy. He had two

more speeches to make before bedtime. The organizers closed the meeting with an appeal for contributions towards the 4,000 franc hire charge for the hall.

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boy to let go his mind's grip on the duel and let the Force fill him and guide him, and right at the end, when there are only seconds between total victory and total disaster, the voice hears Guinness telling him to switch off the computer that is to guide him to the target, and let the Force select the moment to fire the vital charge.

The weakness of the film is that, having adopted this theme, it fails to sustain its working-out; there is a mercenary, for instance, putting his courage and skill at the service of the highest bidder, who suddenly announces that he doesn't believe in any universal force, but his challenge is neither properly laid up to nor in any way resolved, and no conclusion is drawn, either by him or by anybody else, or by the director, from his last-minute return to the side he has earlier abandoned because he thinks it is going to lose. Yet although *Star Wars* is timid and half-hearted about its principles, it is clear that audiences, at any rate in the United States, have heard

clearly what is only muttered out of the corner of the mouth.

And that, as I say, is where the interest of the film lies. For it seems quite clear that *Star Wars* is already one of the most successful films ever made, though it quite lacks the dramatic excitement of *Jaws*, say. (There is a suggestion at the end that somebody had already envisaged a *Star Wars Part II*, because although the direction is so clumsy that it is impossible to be certain, it looked to me as though the "Black Rider" got away in a small space-ship from the final catastrophe that overtook his evil Empire, and thus lives to fight again.)

If I am right, then the symbolism of the "final" scene of the battle is very significant indeed. When the hero, obeying the Force, releases the words of Obi-Wan Guinness, switches off the targeting computer in his space-fighter, the commanders in the control room at his side's headquarters are astonished and horrified, for they have impressed on him and his fellow-pilots (be

the last survivor in the battle) that only a perfect direct hit will suffice to start the cataclysm, and one of the pilots who preceded him in the assault, seconds a hit which, though only very slightly off centre, fails. To cut out the computer that is setting the aim for him is therefore not only to reject technology at the critical moment when it is generally agreed to be essential but to do so at the heaviest of costs, and to trust, entirely, an entirely non-technological force, for the young man is not relying on his own technical skill in abandoning the computer-aided aiming mechanism. It is made quite clear both that no human response could be quick enough or fine enough to hit the target, and that it is precisely because he is willing to let himself fall into the field of the Force that he succeeds.

For the hero to reject technology at such a moment in a science-fiction film is behaviour as shocking as would be levitation at a Royal Society soirée, yet the general murmur of delight that ran round the

cinema at that point was unmistakable.

Of course, the phenomenon should not come as a surprise. The limitations of technology are, in fact, everywhere apparent, and nowhere more than in the land where technology has gone furthest; to wonder, then, that American audiences have been flocking to see a film which offers a completely technocratic way of dealing with the world, at the most vital point. And beyond the questioning of technology there stands the recognition that subverts such questioning: of the impossibility of obvious, logical, scientific solutions to the problems of the universe. That, too, would account for much of the film's success.

You can, if you like, reject all this as speculative nonsense, and insist that *Star Wars* is simply a cheaply made, but undeniably successful, movie. If so, it is a poor one, and you would be well advised to save your money. But if so, how do you account for the millions of dollars it has taken at the box office? *©Times Newspapers Ltd, 1978*

An icy reminder of the need for salt talks

As my car slithered sideways down a steep iced hill in south-east London yesterday, I thought of Robin Hodgson, and I felt a twinge of remorse.

I must explain that Mr Hodgson, Tory MP for Walsall North, was the target of a semi-satirical PHS missile recently. He had put down no fewer than six Order Paper questions about salting of motorways: I implied that this seemed both excessive and obsessive.

Thereupon, Mr Hodgson wrote me a long and detailed letter, telling me why he thought it was so important to get salt on roads that is desirable. True, he was referring to motorways rather than my hill, but salt, as I always say, is salt.

Faints from Mr Hodgson's sister, which I kept from you before, I now give. Corrosion of vehicles, caused by salting, probably costs the country £130m a year. My arge bills tend to confirm this. Rain washes motorway salt own watercourses and a lot of

it is absorbed into the earth. That, said Mr Hodgson, is why the banks of streams fed by motorway water are denuded of vegetation.

What really made me sit up and take notice was when Mr Hodgson got round to the human side of his case. The main anti-caking elements added to motorway salt, he said, were ferro-cyanide compounds. "Consider," Mr Hodgson warned, "what a build-up of cyanide compounds in local streams will do to children who play in them."

Add to all this the fact that tests in America have shown that too much salt on roads can increase the risk of aquaplaning and you can follow the logic of Mr Hodgson's signing-off comment: "I am sure you would agree that it is worth the £180 it costs the taxpayer to draw the Minister's attention to those points."

A firm of Lincoln's Inn solicitors is looking for audio secretaries. "Age immaterial," says the advertisement, "but personality and temperament just as important."

On-the-record talking point

An appalling challenger has been found, to take on the words television personality Nicholas Parsons in an attempt on his world after-dinner speaking record of 428 minutes 3 seconds.

He is the similarly prolific author and broadcaster Giles Brandreth who held the previous record. Already the insults have begun to fly from Mr Brandreth who established his reputation as a talker in 1969. Then, as a 21-year-old student, he appeared on television and talked Fred Friendly, the American commentator, Lady Longford, Ian MacLeod and Michael Foot off the screen in a 90 minute confrontation.

Mr Brandreth said: "Of course, Nicholas is used to performing in front of an audience that's fast asleep so he has an advantage over me there." The two will be replying to the thanks to St Valentine after two dinners to be held simultaneously in adjacent rooms at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge on Monday in aid of Action Research for the Crippled Child.

The return of the small hours

A fellow diarist was once snuffy enough to arch his brows and wince "What would Reith have said?" when the BBC used straw-bonneted girls at a Proms publicity party. He would have reached for his hat, or his gun, at another kind of radio-launching occasion yesterday.

London Broadcasting, the commercial radio station, engaged two models; put them into abbreviated "nights" and let them loose on the guests, on some of whom the relevance of the undress seemed to be lost.

Dodo island flexes its wings

The Indian Ocean island of Mauritius, where little has occurred since the extinction of the dodo, is launching its first campaign to attract British tourists. The Prime Minister, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, will arrive shortly, reasoning that the coup last year in the neighbouring Seychelles could divert tourists to his island.

Why the PLO has come to town

A ceremony today at the Central Mosque in Regent's Park marks the "Arba'een" or fortieth day after the murder of Said Hammami, the PLO representative in London.

This is the end of the traditional period of Muslim mourning, and Mr Hammami's family will be there to receive condolences with "representatives of the PLO". The organising committee have these will include Mr Faruq Qaddumi, the PLO's "foreign minister".

On Monday, Mrs Hammami will be guest of honour at another commemorative meeting in London organized by the British section of the Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Cooperation and the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding. The theme will be "A Man of Peace", and one of the papers about Hammami's political views will be presented by Dr Isam Sartawi, who is understood to have acquired Hammami's mantle as the PLO's leading spokesman.

What about a slogan saying 'Don't let the Tories rule'?



"Cambridge is a Mechanical Sorting Office", said the Post Office Frank on the letter received by Brother John Francis, of the Society of Saint Francis, in Rochester, Dorset. "I was under the impression it was a university city", he writes to me.

Wild horses won't drag from the BBC which eight records Margaret Thatcher will choose when she visits Roy Plomley's desert island next week.

A message by bottle tells me, however, that the choice ranges from pop to opera, that Mrs Thatcher has selected the family photograph album as her luxury and a volume on how to survive as the book (apart from Shakespeare and the Bible) she would want to read. The Tory leader apparently asked to be cast away; whether Mr Callaghan will now stick equal time because the waving palms remains to be seen.



of "rolling targets" which are reassessed during the period when they are in operation. The stress is on the need to prevent such a change in the means by which the policy is implemented from becoming a disguised softening-of that policy. The authorities should set themselves a medium-term path for monetary policy. If they find that during one of the shorter periods for which they have set themselves a target that they are drifting above the upper limit, they must accept the need to adopt a lower target in the subsequent period to get themselves back on course.

It is the fixing of the medium to long term path for the growth of the money supply which remains the major policy question to which the Governor, perhaps understandably, did not address himself in his speech. Although it would clearly be difficult for him to say so at this stage, it is essential that the targets which the authorities set themselves should be seen to imply a steady fall in the rate of inflation over the long term. If this to happen, there must thus be a steady fall in the targets which the authorities set themselves. An announced policy of long-term stabilization will be favourable for exports, which depend in part on long-term price stability, for investment, which is always inhibited by uncertainty, and for employment, which also depends on confidence. It is the best contribution monetary policy can make to economic growth.

in such a way as to cover a wider area than "publication". It includes, among other things, advertising, offering for sale, "exposing" and "causing to be seen", whether for profit or not. These are very much stronger restrictions than those that apply to pornography of other kinds.

It is right that severe penalties should be readily available against those who exploit children in a detestable trade. It is more questionable whether they should fall on the addicts as well as the pushers—on the furtive swooping of pictures as well as their commercial promotion. At an earlier stage in the drafting of the Bill it was even intended to make even possession an offence, on the grounds that even that might make the owner dangerous to children. That would have been wrong, and might have resulted in blackmail. The provision that proceedings should only be instituted with the consent of the Director of Public Prosecutions is some protection against capricious prosecutions (the safeguard of jury trial would also apply). The Bill is a broad one, and ought to be carefully scrutinized in committee, but it is a necessary one, and certainly should be given a second reading.

from 1912 to 1933, and before they left, they trained the National Guard, which was used by the first of the Somozas, the father of the present president, to gain control of the country. Since then, the Americans have been closely associated with Nicaraguan policies and their ambassador has been a power in the last, calling for assistance on which the other countries. The guerrillas have remained a force in the countryside, in spite of drives against them.

The general strike was sparked by the murder in January of Señor Pedro Chamorro, one of the leaders of the opposition. The Americans, who in the past have supported the Somoza regime, let-it be known this time that they were taking an audaciously neutral position, calling for a peaceful settlement. At the same time, Nicaragua is an obvious case for the application of President Carter's human rights—just as Costa Rica has been praised as an example of how a Latin American country can be run—and military aid is being cut. The underlying question is whether the Somoza dynasty does finally fall. The opposition covers a wide range of views, and Nicaragua is a long way from the smoother political system of Costa Rica.

tion being widely distributed in the forests of Europe and we are aware of no evidence of its momentary disappearance from the soil. The tick-borne encephalitis or the risk of it has the same distribution and (cases) (or isolations of the virus) have been reported from the forests of France, from Yugoslavia to Finland. The infection causes little or no disease in animals. It is not transmitted from man to man, but is spread by ticks. The main people at risk are forestry, dairy, abattoir and other agricultural workers in areas where the infection is prevalent. Tourists are similarly at risk when walking or camping in these forests. The infection cannot spread in the manner the dramatic way suggested by Mr. Reay. Its movements are very limited and it can be transported only significant distance only on

Have the pay guidelines got the backing of law?—No. Are the guidelines clear?—No. Is there any judicial procedure for deciding if the guidelines have been breached?—No. Is there any provision for alleged breach of the guidelines, applied to all "culprits"?—No. Are alleged "culprits" automatically informed of their conviction and of their punishment?—No. Do any of the proceedings take place in public?—No. Is there any appeal against conviction or sentence?—No.

Mr Roy Hattersley and other Ministers say that all this is justified in the national interest; seemingly oblivious of the fact that this has always been the argument used by the Soviet Union and other dictatorships to justify their own secret trials.

It is clear that this has created the deep sense of outrage among both proponents and opponents of an incomes policy. The issue of the blacklist is not about inflation. It is simply about justice.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SHERRBOURNE,
4 Ashdown,
Camball Road, SW15,
February 8.

From Mr David Green

Sir, The 1974 Consumer Credit Act created the right of an individual to discover the name of an agency that had blacklisted him for credit; to obtain a copy of the data recorded against him; and to correct it if it was factually incorrect. The same Government, that promoted that legislation has declared that it has a voluntary and non-statutory wages policy, but that any employer who breaks it may be blacklisted and thereafter deprived of access to Government agencies. That employer does not have any right to see the record or to correct

fact since it is not in consequence of any offence known in law that he is on the list in the first place.

The question by the archbishop, whether it played a fundamental part in the protection of our civil liberties. It is time that it was asked of those who prepare, promote and direct the enforcement of HM Government's blacklist; and it is time also that the courts were invited to consider whether these actions were in fact so unreasonable as to be prohibited by injunction.

Of course governments—and this Government in particular—are happy to use the law as a sword and distressed when its dual role as a shield impinges upon their constitutional wishes. But we have not spent so much in the courts to see their excesses of the Crown only to see its parliamentary surrogate take its place. And even the Government should consider whether its precedent if not discontinued, does not involve disastrous prospects for the future.

Our government contracts and financial services are to be sold.

and postal services—as indeed some unions have already urged in connexion with industrial disputes; and if governments, afraid or unwilling to secure the legislation of their will through Parliament, are nevertheless to sanction it by withdrawal

no change should be made in the rules governing entry, or that the minimum change should be made, accepted the view that two or three million more people of the same kind in numbers of dependants. But it has not happened; and I do not believe that it is going to happen.

Moreover, if, as most people would not dispute, the problem concerns the number of coloured immigrants who are not British citizens, and hence, the likely size and rate of growth of the coloured population, the question of the coloured issue must be raised. If our coloured population at the end of the century is four million (and I think it is likely to be more than 10 per cent of their population takes a husband or wife from their country of ethnic origin, then the increase will be 200,000; and increases of that or higher orders will go on *ad infinitum*.

Following year.
Unless something of this sort is
done, doubt will be cast on the
sincerity of the acknowledgements
already given - that an anomaly
exists.

Yours faithfully,
A. K. CAIRNCROSS,
Master of St Peter's College,
Oxford.

R. C. O. MATTHEWS,
Master of Clare College,
Cambridge.

February 7.

Half term variations

From Mrs Elizabeth Parker

Sir, At various times over the next
fortnight or so schoolchildren will
be enjoying their half-term holiday.
The variety of dates can cause
serious inconvenience to families
with children in more than one
school, especially when mother
(whose jobs sometimes pay school
fees) have to take extended time off
work. This is the problem confined
to the private sector or to those who
bridge both sectors. Neighbourhood
educational authorities often pick
different dates for no obvious
reason.

While there may be argument
for staggering the main school
holidays, there is surely no good
reason why all the schools in a given
area should pick the same day for
term. A small group of local
parents calling themselves the Ha-

Rice for a risotto
From Mrs John FitzGerald
 Sir, I was very surprised to
 read in *Sunday Express* suggesting "a
 grain" is rice for a risotto. Any
 who is interested in Italian cook
 knows that a risotto must be m
 with a round grain rice, prefera
 Arborio, with the stock add
 slowly. The whole point of i

delicious dish is the creamy
which has absorbed the st
and/or flavours. something i
ordinarily never do.
Yours faithfully,
JEANNE FITZGERALD,
22 Markham-Street, SW3.

Brain waves?
From Miss Shirley Coulson
Sir, (If, as your front page
te, February 7) suggests, "The
star systems nearest the Earth c
detect the presence of intelli
here from our televi
signals", then they would suet
where I—a mere earth be
mortal—have so often failed.
Yours faithfully,
SHIRLEY COULSON,
18 Belsize Avenue, NW3.

stronger claimant on the accommodation: the Queen was having a baby. The justices returned from the Whitrus vacation to find they had been ousted. Alas for their dignity, the common pleas resumed "in a certain swith" in the second ward of the Tower with the Crown's pleas "in a small house" adjoining Whitechapel on the top floor of the White Tower. The Queen had her baby, Joan, on July 5. Alas for her comfort, the rain came in on her bed.

Yours sincerely,
SEVIDER TUNKEL, Secretary.
Victory Society,
Faculty of Laws,
Queen Mary College,
Mile End Road, E1.
February 8.

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

[illegible]

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

down over
in's
ndary banks,
19

January revenue surplus hints to shortfall in state borrowing for year

id Blake
as government
ad a revenue
of £1.149m in
January, far
below the £1.149m
required for the
year. The £1.149m
represents the latest
forecast.
News about govern-
ment borrowing from
the point of view of
the financial mar-
kets underline the
nature of recent
forecasting a sharp
rise in the latest
eligible liabilities, bow-
ing attention to the
fact that a sharp in-
crease in lending must
be met, thus pushing up
the supply of funds.
This year, total central
government borrowing in
the 10 months ending
at 31 January, is com-
pared with the same
period last year. The
most estimates suggest
the private Treasury
prepared at the end of
January that the 10
months ending 31 Jan-
uary is to be proved
right, the central govern-
ment in that figure will
need at least £5,000m.
In only two months, the
central government will
run a deficit of well
over £1,000m. If the
10 months ending 31
January is to be proved
right, this is a consider-
able performance consid-
ering that the central govern-
ment deficit, during the last
10 months, totalled just over

BUDGET DEFICIT (£ million)

Year	Actual	Forecast	Actual	Forecast
1977	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1978	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1979	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1980	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1981	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1982	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1983	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1984	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1985	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1986	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1987	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1988	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1989	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1990	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1991	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1992	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1993	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1994	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1995	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1996	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1997	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1998	2,261	2,232	-496	867
1999	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2000	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2001	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2002	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2003	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2004	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2005	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2006	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2007	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2008	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2009	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2010	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2011	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2012	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2013	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2014	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2015	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2016	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2017	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2018	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2019	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2020	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2021	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2022	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2023	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2024	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2025	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2026	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2027	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2028	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2029	2,261	2,232	-496	867
2030	2,261	2,232	-496	867

it is possible that some negative effect from these payments is still to work through, that could lead to an increase in the overall deficit.
However, the balance of evidence at the moment would tend to suggest a rather lower figure than £5,700m for the public sector as a whole during this year.
The key element in bringing this about has been much higher revenue than expected from corporation tax. This is consolidated into the Inland Revenue figures, which at the time of the Budget were expected to rise by 4.8 per cent during the year compared with 1976-77. In fact, they have risen by 7.1 per cent compared with the first 10 months of last financial year.
Revenue from Customs and Excise, on the other hand, is running roughly in line with projections and on the expenditure side there has been an 11 per cent increase in Consolidated Fund expenditure, which dominates the figures, compared with the 10 per cent increase predicted at the time of the Budget.
The reasons for the much higher receipts from Corporation Tax are not entirely clear. They may reflect some defect in the Inland Revenue's forecasting procedure, or they could be caused by an unexpected increase in company profits. Delays in implementing pay settlements may have inflated these in recent months, thus leading companies to be liable to pay more tax in the short term.

100m gasfields boost Shell and Amoco

ar Vioveye
Correspondent
and Amoco are to spend
on new facilities to
the life of the southern
sea gasfields in return
for prices for the gas
to the British Gas
Co.
The increases, gas
in southern North Sea
is cheaper than sup-
ply arriving from the
aid in more northerly
and will not lead to
for higher prices to
as.
Gas has taken these
southern North Sea
into account in reaching
a £100m profit for
ent financial year.
Corporation, which has
monopoly purchasing
for North Sea gas has
voiced in a long dis-
the oil companies
talking new facilities to
hat the undersea reser-
es properly drained. The
es have claimed that
low prices being paid
did not justify new in-
in the compressors
to boost production
e fields have passed
time.
kesman for British Gas
d that new contracts
signed with the con-
sidered by Shell and
but declined to
on the size of the
creases. Offshore pro-
cy was a commercial
and the corporation and

the oil companies had agreed
not to comment publicly.
First effects of the new deal
have already been seen. Eight
new compressor units using
Rolls-Royce gas turbines have
been ordered by Shell and
Amoco for the Leman and In-
defatigable fields at a cost of
£15m. Shell will install two
compressors on each of two
platforms on the Leman field
during 1980. Amoco's units will
be fitted to one of the plat-
forms on Indefatigable in 1979.
The two contracts have been
placed with Cooper Bessemer
UK and the Rolls-Royce share
of the work for £211
engines will be worth £5m.
Once the compressors are
installed the offshore com-
panies will be able to provide
more gas to the corporation as
winter peaks and allow output
to fall off during the slack
summer months. Since more
gas will be available, the sup-
ply contracts have been
extended from 1973-94 to 1997
and possibly further.
Gulf Oil Refining said yester-
day that a £30m contract had
been awarded to Bechtel
Corporation to build new units
necessary at its Milford Haven
refinery to provide feedstock
for the new £290m catalytic
cracker to be built jointly by
Gulf and Texaco on the oppo-
site side of the Haven.
The facilities include a
vacuum distillation unit, a sul-
phur recovery plant, new tank-
age and associated offsite
facilities. A contract for a
pipeline to the cracker site
from the Gulf refinery will be
awarded later.

Mini car strikers go back

stewards yesterday
off a strike which had
Mini car production at
Longbridge, Bir-
mington. Output
on Wednesday over

moves to close down one of
the Mini assembly lines and
consolidate production on the
remaining about 200 cars
walked out when a small group
were transferred to other
areas.

Lawkins and Tipson, Limited

As a second protest sit-in
began yesterday at the GEC
Telecommunications plant in
Coventry, shop stewards rep-
resenting more than 10,000 em-
ployees warned Sir Arnold
Weinstock, the chairman, of a
possible strike explosion.
They urged him in a letter to
agree to immediate pay in-
creases "within Government
wage guidelines" to give them
pay parity with other engineer-
ing factories in the area.
OPEC DIVISION This will represent about 40% of our Group
and production. The situation here has improved since our
previous report and I doubt if there is a more efficient unit
anywhere.
LAWLOW ROPES Marlow Ropes continues to break its own
records. Indeed at one time last year its production expansion
did not quite catch up with demand and some delays in delivery
are experienced. Marlow leads the field in quality which is
never allowed to deteriorate.
URE DIVISION The Division has had integration difficulties
and has also suffered mildly from the downturn in the American
economy where a large part of Smith Wire's business is obtained.
However, the Division expects to maintain its profits this year.
ONASTIC DIVISION We have now completed the movement
Rainbow and the first full year of operation has been highly
successful. The Division has been much more profitable than
before, and expects this growth to continue.
Look forward with confidence to 1978 when profits should
equal or exceed those of 1977 and we expect further growth in
years ahead.
J. E. HAWKINS, Chairman

In brief

Distillers to appeal on EEC ruling

An appeal is to be made by
the Distillers Company to the
European Court of Justice in
Luxembourg against the Euro-
pean Commission's ban on dual
export prices. The company in-
tends to plead that its price
structure is designed to aid
productivity and distribution
and thereby benefit consumers.
The appeal has been decided
on after careful scrutiny of the
Commission's ruling by the
company's lawyers. The full
text of the appeal will be
lodged with the Court of Jus-
tice by the beginning of next
month, but a hearing is not
expected for a further year to
18 months.
Distillers, which is the
world's largest producer of
Scotch whisky, will argue that
by protecting foreign distribu-
tors through dual pricing it is
ensuring the best use of the
Treaty of Rome.

Buyers return to gilt-edged market

A more peaceful industrial
outlook brought buyers back
into the gilt-edged market yester-
day and both short and long
stocks closed at their best levels
of the day, some one and half
points up at the longer end.
The Government Broker
reactivated the long "cap" at
£26, a full 54 below the partly-
paid price, adding weight to the
view that MLK will remain un-
changed this afternoon. Some of
the shorter-dated securities
bought by the authorities to
steady the market earlier in the
account are also thought to have
been sold yesterday.
Equities also had a bright
start, but profit-taking in the
late afternoon trimmed back
earlier rises and the FT
ordinary share index closed at
473.3, a net gain of 4.9 on the
session.
Financial Editor, page 19

GEC Coventry sit-in

As a second protest sit-in
began yesterday at the GEC
Telecommunications plant in
Coventry, shop stewards rep-
resenting more than 10,000 em-
ployees warned Sir Arnold
Weinstock, the chairman, of a
possible strike explosion.
They urged him in a letter to
agree to immediate pay in-
creases "within Government
wage guidelines" to give them
pay parity with other engineer-
ing factories in the area.

OECD inflation

Consumer prices in the 24
member nations of the Organiza-
tion for Economic Cooperation
and Development rose by 0.4
per cent in December, bringing
the rise for last year to 8.3 per
cent against 8.9 in 1976, it was
announced in Paris.

Banker joins Peachey

Mr Charles Ball, former
chairman of Barclays Merchant
Bank, has accepted an offer to
become a non-executive director
of Peachey Property Corpora-
tion. His appointment became
effective yesterday. He helped
prepare Peachey's successful
defence against the Allied
London Properties bid.
Business Diary, page 19

Cabinet still undecided about N Sea oil fund

By Caroline Ashington
The Cabinet yesterday failed
to choose between two alter-
native drafts of the long-
awaited White Paper on North
Sea oil.
One of these suggests the
setting up of a special fund
through which North Sea
revenues should be channelled.
The other offers such a fund.
The broad strategy outlined
in the documents is similar.
After much discussion ministers
agreed on this, but there will
be some changes in the drafts
before they go back to the
Cabinet, probably next week.
Publication of the final paper
is still thought to be some way
off.
Mr Wedgwood Benn, Sec-
retary of State for Energy, is
known to favour a special fund
as a way of monitoring the use
of North Sea oil revenues.

Other left-wing members of
the Government support this.
Dr Owen, the Foreign Secre-
tary, said the fund should be
of a fund although he does
not share many of Mr Benn's
views on how the money should
be spent.

When the White Paper is
finally published it is expected
to be a fairly slim document
outlining the effects of North
Sea oil on the balance of pay-
ments and on government
revenues over the next decade,
and setting out the Govern-
ment's priorities for the use of
the oil.
Strong emphasis will be
placed on the need to use the
oil to strengthen Britain's in-
dustrial base, and to take
measures of energy conserva-
tion and development for when
the oil runs out. These could
include incentives and other
sources of energy to take over
from oil.

It has been said that the
paper will not be an election
manifesto, but it is an election
fact approaching it is inevitable
seen as an important
statement of the Government's
strategy for the next decade.
This includes direct tax cuts,
more public spending, especially
in the field of investment and
energy conservation, and a
programme of debt repay-
ment and restructuring.

A significant relaxation of ex-
change controls on overseas
investment has been ruled out.
This option has been favoured by
the Conservatives.

Other aspects of keeping track
of the funds from oil include
a North Sea oil table in the
annual White Paper, the public
spending of publishing occa-
sional social White Papers to
show how the money is being
spent.
The Treasury is still looking
at details of how a special fund
should be operated if the
Cabinet decides to have one.

International Stores join supermarket price war

International Stores, a BAT
Industries subsidiary and one
of Britain's biggest grocery re-
tailers, is to follow Sainsbury
into a new phase of the super-
market price war.
It is to announce a pro-
gramme on Monday which will
cut the prices of proprietary
brands in 650 stores.
It is also expected to extend
its "Plain and Simple" range
of low-margin own-label prod-
ucts which it launched last
summer in reply to the price
cuts brought in by Tesco. The
price of these products, packed
in unadorned white containers,
was held between July and the
end of January.
It is to a period of price
freezing is expected to be
announced next week, together
with additions to the range of
100 products launched initially.
There was some speculation
yesterday that the price cuts
extend to frozen foods. Other
areas not at present covered by
"Plain and Simple" products
include canned fruit.
International's move comes as
a surprise since a series of mar-
ket predictions of the effect of the

How the markets moved

The Times index: 199.34 + 2.58
The FT index: 473.3 + 4.9

Rises

Ass Bank	11p to 183p
Bat A	10p to 216p
Daily Mail	10p to 315p
De La Rue	12p to 275p
E. D. Electronics	14p to 615p
Edgemoor	10p to 175p
Hickson Vels	10p to 130p
Marshall	12p to 150p

Falls

Anglo Am Oil	10p to 430p
Bank of Scotland	3p to 285p
Church & Co	3p to 180p
Decca	5p to 440p
E. Rand Prod	7p to 342p
Ford Mtr BDR	5p to 140p

Equities hit back earlier mly.
Gilt 50 strongly ahead.
Dollar premium: 77.75 p.m. cent
(effective rate 31.11 p.m. cent).
Sterling rose 15 p.m. to 193.50.
The effective exchange rate index
was at 65.2.

On other pages

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Brussels details measures needed by Tokyo to reduce trade deficit

Tokyo, Feb 9.—The EEC has
officially informed Japan of a
comprehensive list of measures
it wants implemented to reduce
the trade surplus with the
European Community, the
Foreign Ministry said.
A ministry spokesman said
the list was given to Mr Mas-
ahiro Nishibori, Japan's am-
bassador to the EEC, after a
meeting of the Council of
Foreign Ministers in Brussels
on Tuesday. The meeting
called for fresh talks with
Tokyo to reduce the bilateral
trade imbalance, which last
year totalled \$5,000m (£2,600m).
The spokesman said the
EEC's demands included the
opening up of Japan's complex
distribution system, an increase
in imports of manufactured
goods, purchase of the Euro-
pean Airbus, an increase in
assistance to developing coun-
tries, and further reduction in
tariffs before any decision
made by the so-called Tokyo
Round of multinational trade
negotiations.
Brussels also asked for "order-
ly exports" by Japan, in-
creased imports of EEC leather
footwear, ski boots and sports
yarn, and the simplification and

speeding up of Customs clear-
ance procedures.
These items are illustrative
of the EEC's demands, but are
not the complete list, the
spokesman said.
He declared that Japan was
ready to discuss any subject
with the EEC, and make as
much effort as possible to find
areas of cooperation and agree-
ment.
But, "It will not be an easy
task to arrive at a mutually
satisfactory conclusion, particu-
larly since we feel we have
already exhausted measures
which can be taken by the
Japanese Government in the
recent Japan-United States
negotiations."
Furthermore, the Japanese
spokesman said, last month's
United States-Japan trade
agreement was of global rather
than bilateral significance, and
took into account trade
negotiations made by the EEC
since late 1976.
Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp,
vice-president of the EEC Com-
mission, is expected in Tokyo
later in March for talks, on
which he will report back to
Commissioners in Brussels.
The spokesman said today—AP-Dow
Jones.

Aurora buys JFB stake in specialist steel group

By Bryan Appleyard
Aurora Holdings, a Sheffield
engineering group, has bought
Johnson & Firth Brown's 19.1
per cent holding in Samuel
Osborn, a specialist steelmaker.
The £1.6m deal surprised the
market, as it was expected
that the sale of the holding
to a foreign company at
estimated prices as high as
100p a share.
Aurora is paying the equiva-
lent of 76p per share by issue
of new shares to JFB at
89p, which will give JFB a 14
per cent stake in Aurora.
Osborn was in bid talks with
Weir Group last year, but
these failed. Speculation about
another possible bidder has
been rife since then.
Mr Robert Atkinson, said yester-
day the stake was an invest-
ment, but he would be hoping
for cooperation between the
two companies in the field of
engineering and special steels.
The deal had been heard of
in the market for some time,
but it was not until yester-
day that it was officially
announced.
A spokesman for Johnson &
Firth Brown said the company
had been trying to "sell" the
Osborn stake for some time. It
had been held by a number of
years and was originally
bought with a view to a pos-
sible bid.
However, JFB no longer saw
Osborn's production fitting in
with its own holdings.
Financial Editor, page 19

Wilkinson Match plan cuts Allegheny share

By Christopher Wilkins
Wilkinson Match has nego-
tiated improved terms for its
controversial deal with Alle-
gheny Ludlum under which the
American specialist steel group
was originally to obtain a con-
trolling interest in Wilkinson.
The new terms, if approved
by shareholders, will leave
Allegheny with a 44.4 per cent
stake in Wilkinson, instead of
just over 50 per cent, as en-
visaged in the initial scheme
announced last December.
Wilkinson said last night that
the terms had been revised
when the investigating account-
ants reported that profits of
the deal were lower than origi-
nally thought.
True Temper is the key to the
whole deal. Allegheny first
bought a 29.9 per cent holding
in Wilkinson from Swedish
Match and was then pro-
posed that Wilkinson would buy
True Temper for shares in such
a way as to increase Allegheny's
holding to more than 50 per
cent.
The reasons given for True
Temper's price shortfalls were
chiefly the fall in the value of
the dollar against the pound
and differences between British
and American accounting prac-
tice. But True Temper's own
profits have also fallen below
expectations.
A further factor, however,
has clearly been the strong
opposition to the original deal
from institutional shareholders,
who own some 30 per cent of
Wilkinson. Their objection was

that control of Wilkinson would
pass abroad without a full bid
being made.
The Takeover Code requires
that a full bid should normally
be made when a company raises
its shareholding above 30 per
cent.
But in this case the Takeover
Panel has taken the view that
shareholders themselves should
be left to decide whether to
approve the deal in an extra-
ordinary meeting. This is be-
cause it regards the Swedish
Match and True Temper trans-
actions as being separate.
The institutions' concern is
reflected in the way the deal
has been structured. The
original terms would have in-
volved the issue of 10.5 million
Wilkinson shares in exchange
for True Temper—at last
night's price of 187p, worth
nearly £20m.
The revised version involves
the issue of 6.2 million shares
plus \$5m cash now and a fur-
ther \$3m later. The total
value of £15.7m thus represents
a saving to Wilkinson of about
£4m.
Further, Allegheny has under-
taken not to reduce its stake
in Wilkinson beyond 45 per
cent, except through a full bid
to all shareholders. This in turn
would be conditional upon
acceptances from more than
half the outside shareholders.
Mr Denis Randolph, chair-
man of Wilkinson, said last
night that the board had
thought the original deal was a
good one and that it was a
better one now.
Financial Editor, page 19

Third-world aid protest on shipping lobby

By Our Industrial
Correspondent
Britain's shipping industry
lodged a strong protest yester-
day on the use of aid funds to
support construction of vessels
in this country for developing
countries.
Leaders of the General
Council of British Shipping
told Mrs Hart, Minister for
Overseas Development, that
this policy could harm the
long-term interests of the
United Kingdom fleet.
But the tough speaking from
the council, led by Mr Peter
Walters, its president, failed to
secure assurances that the
Government, through British
Shipbuilders and the Depart-
ment of Industry, would not be
involved in similar deals.
The British Shipbuilders, who
are negotiating with India and
Vietnam for deals worth up to £77m.
Mrs Hart told the delegation
that there were no other com-
parable contracts under nego-
tiation with developing coun-
tries, and that aid money would
be involved.

Franc uneasy again but pound recovers

A flurry of speculative selling
thought to come from Geneva,
pushed the French franc down
again yesterday, but it did not
develop into a serious run.
The franc closed at 4.9 to
the dollar. Some dealers
thought the Bank of France
had intervened to hold up the
rate.
Sterling had a mixed day
with some selling again in the
morning as the markets con-
tinued nervous about the
money supply and pay policy.
However, there was a recovery
later in the day and the rate
closed 15 points higher than on
Wednesday at \$1.935 against the
dollar.

Peter Hill

Arthur Lee & Sons Ltd.

Producers and Stockists of Bright Bars, Cold Rolled Strip,
Wire and Wire Rope in Carbon and Stainless Steels.
RESULTS: Year ended 30th September 1977 1976
Turnover £63,486,000 46,997,000
Group Profit before Taxation 2,856,880 1,993,779
Group Profit after Taxation 789,539 432,582
Minority Interests
Earnings per 12p Share 3.61p 2.43p
Dividend per 12p Share 1.45p 1.35p
POINTS FROM THE STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN,
MR. H. P. FORDER
The pre-tax profit of £2,856,880 compares with £1,993,779 in
1976/77. In view of these results and the prospects for the coming
year a final dividend of 1.05p is being recommended, making a total
distribution for the year of 1.45p as against 1.35p in the previous year.
Turnover rose by 35% in a new Group record of £63,486,000
and every operation apart from the Rope Division produced an
improved trading result.
The results of the first half of the current financial year are
unlikely to match those of the corresponding period last year,
though we may perhaps entertain better hopes of the second half.
It would be strange if 1977/78, being a year in which a general
election must take place or loom closely ahead, did not happen to
produce an uplift in business activity and a replenishing of our own
order books. At the time of writing there are a few signs that this is
beginning to happen. It must, however, be remembered that the
effects of improved trading levels can be financially off-set by a

Bank Governor's inaugural Mais lecture stresses links with inflation and economic growth

Monetary targets 'provide framework of stability for achieving policy objectives'

The following are extracts from the inaugural Mais Lecture given by Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, at the City University, London, yesterday.

Discussing monetary policy in the context of economic policy generally, and what it was hoped to accomplish, he said he was conscious that this aim was ambitious.

He went on: "Moreover, a statement of view by an institution is something very different from that of an individual expert. An institution like the Bank of England differs in being first a collective, a national responsibility; and, as such, in operating in a political environment."

We hope to be sensitive to new currents of thought; yet at the same time we must exercise our judgement and not be change of intellectual fashion.

It is, however, reasonable to expect us to seek to abstract ourselves from day-to-day pressures, and to try to systematise the philosophy that underlies our actions, though of course I have no illusions that I am stating the last word.

Indeed, I hope that our critics will say why they disagree, and that thus we will together participate in the evolution of a new climate of public opinion.

The achievement of a monetary target is not an end of policy in itself. The real objectives of policy include economic growth, in the short term, and also in the long term; and stemming from this the provision of sufficient investment for the future, and of adequate employment opportunities.

They include also price stability, both as a major end in itself, and as a means to much else; and as a means if not an end, they include maintaining an appropriate relation to the rest of the world and a prudent balance of payments stance.

In such a context, there is a place for having a target for the single instrument of monetary policy? Might this not introduce an element of undesirable rigidity—particularly inappropriate, it might be thought, for monetary policy, whose advantage has often been claimed to be that it was flexible?

To this, however, it can be replied that we should beware of over-reacting to changing circumstances, and of being over-active in economic management. Policy changes are unsettling and disturbing in themselves.

It is right that people should know what the broad lines of policy are, and that such policy should be kept on its stated course until circumstances clearly call for a reappraisal. This spirit of disinclination to demand management is justified up to a point, but it is reasonable of being carried too far. To eschew demand management entirely would involve a loss of the self-correcting properties of the private sector of the economy, for which the evidence is not strikingly clear. Moreover, the economic functions of government have become so extensive that it is difficult to define what a neutral policy is.

What, however, does seem clear is that the conventional methods of demand management can only work well against a background of financial stability. Our first order of business must, therefore, be to restore confidence in the framework of the system. The crucial economic decisions, for example to undertake investment, involve an act of faith in the future. That faith has been undermined by uncertainty and uncertainty in particular about the future value of money, externally and internally.

These restraints have now gone. The main role therefore that I see for monetary targets



Mr Gordon Richardson

is to provide the framework of stability within which other policy objectives can be more easily achieved.

Some, I know, may still feel doubts as to how the statistical relationship between money and prices should be interpreted. To those who doubt on some such grounds how far monetary policy can be of help in dealing with inflation, I would venture to address a monetary general defence of our present line of policy.

The latest issue of the National Institute Economic Review suggests, for instance, that the institute's base their contention on the grounds that labour market pressures are general and unemployment in particular do not serve greatly to moderate the wage spiral, unless extremely severe.

With wages in their view thus determined by non-market pressures, they argue that financial targets will either fail to bite, and thus be ineffective, or alternatively that they will have their major impact on real output.

But in the same issue I note that the institute declare that the early re-establishment of reasonably full employment would be foolhardy until a solution is found to the problem of inflation—which, from the viewpoint of the institute, depends on the adoption of incomes policies on a permanent basis. Until then, it is implied, the pace of expansion will have to be kept down to a strictly moderate pace.

In the longer term, the commitment to monetary targets will also ensure a general degree of caution. One may therefore say that in a figurative sense to announce such a commitment is to serve notice on all those concerned, including those concerned with wage bargaining, how far the authorities are prepared to finance inflation.

It will be said that those involved in wage bargaining pay little heed to the size of the monetary targets. This may be so, though I doubt if it is better if it were not. Yet, over time, perseverance with a policy of the sort I have outlined will, I believe, have an increasingly pervasive effect. As it becomes clear to all that faster growth can only be had at the cost of inflation, and that inflation will there not be more pressure to see how this can be done?

I think one thing will be evident from what I have said. Monetary policy is often criticised for being too tight, too restrictive, too inflexible, and that it is too much a demand management device. In practice, until we have made more progress with inflation, its services are likely to be pre-empted by the need to use it as a constraint against inflation. Nevertheless, it is clear that that it need a reasonable rate of expansion; and the prospect I see is not of no expansion, but of a reasonably controlled expansion.

One should recognize that the blame for inflation rests not on any simple cause, but rather on a multitude of political and economic pressures. It is not clear enough that our system has a strong inflationary bias? In recent years annual wage increases have become the accepted norm, though there is no logic in this.

The size of the wage increases moreover depends on an unco-ordinated and to some degree competitive process in which, to say the least, the co-ordinative effect on price stability does not naturally act as a dominant consideration. Governmentally-inspired efforts at pay restraint take their rationale from these circumstances.

In our post-war history there has been a succession of attempts at such policies, some more successful than others; and I would guess that we are destined to continue the effort. Such policies have their obvious shortcomings and considerable attendant disadvantages.

But though the causation may not be simple, there is an observable statistical relation between monetary growth and the rate of inflation. I am not here thinking of the short-term relationships. I think, however, that what is far more important is the relationship between monetary growth and inflation over the longer term.

A great deal of work has been devoted to the study of this relationship over long time periods and in many countries; and that there is such a relationship cannot, I think, be doubted.

Some, I know, may still feel doubts as to how the statistical relationship between money and prices should be interpreted. To those who doubt on some such grounds how far monetary policy can be of help in dealing with inflation, I would venture to address a monetary general defence of our present line of policy.

The latest issue of the National Institute Economic Review suggests, for instance, that the institute's base their contention on the grounds that labour market pressures are general and unemployment in particular do not serve greatly to moderate the wage spiral, unless extremely severe.

With wages in their view thus determined by non-market pressures, they argue that financial targets will either fail to bite, and thus be ineffective, or alternatively that they will have their major impact on real output.

But in the same issue I note that the institute declare that the early re-establishment of reasonably full employment would be foolhardy until a solution is found to the problem of inflation—which, from the viewpoint of the institute, depends on the adoption of incomes policies on a permanent basis. Until then, it is implied, the pace of expansion will have to be kept down to a strictly moderate pace.

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Social costs of new telecommunications technology 'ignored'

By Edward Townsend

A swingeing attack on Britain's telecommunications companies for failing to consider the effect on workers of introducing advanced electronic equipment was delivered yesterday by Mr Frank Chapple, general secretary of the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union.

The development of System X, the latest high technology computerized equipment, would lead to a major contraction of jobs, yet companies' facilities for retraining workers barely existed.

It was an "outrage" because the companies involved were not "one-man bands overtaken by events", but the largest in the land. Their social responsibility is nil.

Mr Chapple, speaking at the annual lunch of the British Industrial Measuring and Control Apparatus Manufacturers' Association, said that the impact of new technology on the structure of employment was too grave for companies to say that redundancies were necessary to protect the jobs of those who remained.

"Industry, Government and unions have got to generate a completely new vision of society at work. The high risks of the new technologies cannot be left to the market to decide," Britain failed in competing with the Japanese in the area of technology on market research, government cooperation, marketing and protecting the home industry.

"Our tripartite planning in this field needs a new dynamic and a new dimension. General statements of good intent will not be sufficient."

"Civil servants, predatory companies and trade unions cannot continue to follow their mutually destructive whims and fancies. The situation not only demands cooperation, but leadership of a determined character."

Mr Chapple gave a warning of the Japanese ambition to seek world domination of the electronics industry in the next decade, and of the impact of problems within the British industry.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Encouraging directors to invest in their own companies

From Mr Nicholas Freeman

Sir, Being a shareholder in a quoted company of which one is a director is becoming an increasingly unattractive investment proposition.

Under the present Stock Exchange guidelines a director's shares are effectively "suspended" for four months prior to the announcement of the interim and the final figures. When the company is engaged in a "price sensitive" activity, his shares may be unmarketable for longer periods. These restrictions on dealing, together with the required disclosure of any purchase or sale of shares,

however small, places the director at a considerable disadvantage compared with other shareholders.

It is surely desirable, from the point of view of all investors, for the senior management of a company to have a stake in its future. However, the present guidelines must act as a considerable disincentive for a director to invest his own capital in the company that he manages.

With the possibility of these "guidelines" acquiring the force of law, the time has come to put forward some firm proposals to redress this anomalous situation.

Firstly, any incentive to encourage employee participation should apply equally to directors.

Secondly, the investment in some shares should not apply to dividends on shares held in the company by a director or, for that matter, any employee.

Any support for these proposals would be welcome. Yours truly, NICHOLAS FREEMAN, Managing Director, Siemens Hunter Limited, 10 Snow Hill, London EC1A 2EB, February 8.

Both sides of industry a fantasy phrase

From the Chairman of the Union of Independent Companies

Sir, I was interested to see it reported yet again that both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer have been stressing their consultative relationship with the CBI. This, of course, is in keeping with the fallacious belief that Government encourages when it announces that it has been talking to both sides of industry by adding in the TUC.

The truth of the matter is that when the Government speaks of "both sides of industry," it means that it has been consulting the officials of the CBI and the officials of the TUC on the other, regardless of the fact that both organizations represent only a minority of those for whom they claim to speak. Such claims do nothing to reassure

the independent company sector which employs over ten million people.

The spurious social contract was nothing more than a certificate for a marriage of convenience between the Government and the TUC. The vast bulk of the legislation which followed in its wake has done untold damage to the initiative and enterprise in the independent sector and it has certainly been the greatest deterrent to the creation of more jobs.

The setting up of the Lever Inquiry is an admission of this. Surely the time has come, therefore, to cast aside once and for all the myths embodied in the fantasy phrases "the social contract" and "both sides of industry."

Yours faithfully, W. G. POETON, Eastern Avenue, Gloucester, February 3.

Opencast mining unnecessary

From Mr Bernard Gascoyne

Sir, In his defence of opencast mining (January 30) Mr Donald Davies does not take account of the unused production capacity that is available in deep mining. It is difficult, therefore, to understand how the Coal Board can justify the employment of private civil engineering contractors for the production of opencast coal, when large resources of both men and machinery are idle underground.

Mr Davies refers to the mixing of opencast coal with deep mined coal to get the right blend, and he refers in particular to the importance of anthracite from opencasting in this respect. This type of coal (anthracite) is abundantly available in the South Wales pits, but as this is by far the lowest rate of production in deep mining—25.5cwt per man shift, as compared to 43.6cwt per man shift nationally—the shortage of anthracite is again a measure of the waste in the use of deep mined resources.

It is obvious from the account of the various meetings that are held, "to avoid opencast workings becoming a nuisance," that Mr Davies lives in the rural tranquillity south of the Thames. I submit that his opinion regarding environmentally acceptable conditions would be somewhat changed if he lived in the north and had his neighbours the "Big George" or the "Bucyrus Erie", either of which can tear up the countryside to a usual depth of 150 feet, or if required, to a depth of 600 feet.

Opencasting is unnecessary because it serves only those employed to work it; it merely duplicates a deep mining coal industry which has a production potential far in excess of the maximum requirements for coal.

BERNARD GASCOYNE, 28 Garth Road, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Factors in productivity

From Mr G. L. E. Metz

Sir, Mr C. H. New (February 1) like Mr F. E. Jones has, unintentionally I am sure, led the flock astray. He has used about 1,200 words skillfully and persuasively to obscure four important considerations that:

- (i) Capital should never be invested in any project unless the labour involved is used efficiently without waste;
- (ii) The primary consideration is not whether productivity or output per hour is better or worse than that of our competitors, but whether, after eliminating waste of capital, labour and material, we can compete.

(iii) The suggestion that productivity could be increased by a pay increase of 25 per cent is a polite way of saying that labour is not doing the work it has been paid for.

(iv) The statement that each pound invested in the British Steel Corporation produces 2.1 times as much added value as each pound invested in the New Nippon Steel of Japan is not only meaningless, it leads people astray. G. L. E. METZ, Chaldon, Surrey, February 1.

Bank delays affecting exports

From Mr Roger Pearse

Sir, I note that the efficiency of British banks vis a vis money transfers in and out of the country is once again a topic of bemused correspondence among your readers.

Having recently returned to this country to open a textile design business catering to a world-wide clientele, I have had to wait for over a month for a bank draft from Switzerland (not a personal or business cheque) to be credited to my account after presentation. My bank manager assures me that this is normal and that all payments from abroad will follow this pattern.

Business would grind to a halt on the Continent if companies there had to labour under this yoke and, without doubt, this lethargy on the part of our major banks acts as a stranglehold on our exports.

We have all at one time or another been glad to take advantage of intervening weak ends, etc. to delay debts from our personal accounts, but it is tedious to wait for bank institutions are profiting on a gigantic scale by these unwarranted delays. Yours faithfully, ROGER PEARSE, 124a, Barons Court Road, London, W14.

Restoration of rice market

From Mr Christopher Lorimer

Sir, In your edition of January 31 you report that Malaysia will send a purchasing mission to Burma, Thailand and China soon to buy rice. This is likely to involve weeks, or months, of tortuous inter-government negotiations.

Before 1939 there was a free world market in rice. Good merchants from any country had only to send a telegram to a rice merchant in Rangoon, and whole cargo loads could be bought the same day for whatever delivery was required.

The demise of the world rice market was one of the great tragedies which followed the brutal and unprovoked invasion of Thailand and Burma by Japan. It is interesting to recall that Japan bought one million tons of rice in Burma the year before the invasion.

If it too much to hope that perhaps in 10 or 20 years a free rice market will be restored? This would be to the benefit of every rice farmer and every rice eater in the world. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER LORIMER, Gibston, Kilsnash, Fife.

Third quarter profit down at British Airways

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

British Airways made a profit before borrowings and taxation of £18m during the third quarter of the financial year 1977-78, according to figures published last night. This compared with a £23m profit in the 1976-77 period.

Revenue was £313m, compared with £285m in the third quarter of 1976-77. After interest and taxation and minorities, the profit totalled £5m compared with £6m.

Between April and December 1977, British Airways made a net profit of £32m on a total revenue of £1,010m, against £36m profit on a revenue of £920m in the previous year. Third quarter results continued to be adversely affected by industrial disputes, including the air traffic control dispute. Being briefed: Representatives of Boeing led by Mr Tex Bouldouin, the president, briefed aviation interests in London yesterday on new generation of airliners planned by the company.

Aircraft leasing deal: British Midland Airways, the Derby-based independent airline, is to operate two Boeing 707-320C airliners for Yemen Airways Corporation, the Arab Republic's national airline, in a leasing deal worth £8.4m.

'Strikers' charter' points way to living without labour Employers' group draws up document on how workers pave way for disputes

A remarkable "strikers' charter" which identifies the best time for disputes to be staged and gives details of official and unofficial methods of boosting strike pay, has been prepared by an employers' association.

During the next few days it will be circulated to member companies of the Coventry and District Engineering Employers' Association.

On the question of why it was prepared, and what it should fall into the hands of militant shop stewards, Mr Alan Berry,

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Convincing arguments required from Wilkinson Match

With the market continuing to move yesterday morning on the back of the decision to fall in with the Government's plan to pay, the Government is finally able to swing back into plying the long "tap" Treasury sent 1995, at 26 and 26½—the stock still being only £30 per cent paid.

estimates put the supply of stock at £50m and £100m nominal and rises still have a long way to go to shed the bulk of the £800m the final call comes due in just tonight's time. For the time being, looks as if things could go their curiously with noises that the power will fall into line behind the miners' likelihood that other economic will not upset the apple-cart.

in unknown, however, is whether rises will risk an attempt at a short end of the market now, improving, remains delicate, and immediate pressure looks to have short-term money market rates. considerable scepticism that this will thing more than temporary.

along with the rationale of the entire link with Allegheny will be put before shareholders in two weeks. It will need to be a convincing document.

Samuel Osborn

Aurora's ambition

After the failure of Weir Group's takeover approach to Samuel Osborn, Johnson & Firth Brown has passed on its 19.1 per cent stake in Osborn to Aurora Holdings in a swap deal that gives JFB a 14 per cent stake in Aurora.

In turn, Aurora, a Sheffield engineer, takes its stake in Osborn up to 24 per cent at which point it clearly has ambitions.

A first step would be board representation at Osborn, but the special steelmaker could well resist such a move from a potential predator. Whether it will be interested in Aurora's ideas about overseas link-ups and cooperation in high technology special steels remains to be seen.

One thing is certain with both companies capitalised at around £9m, Aurora badly needs the agreement of the Osborn board if it wants to take this situation any further.

Lonrho

After the acquisitions

Lonrho's push into the United Kingdom over the past couple of years on the view that good assets were going cheap is beginning to show through.

Never keen to give an exact geographical breakdown, the latest accounts do at least provide a separate entry for the United Kingdom reflecting perhaps that British assets now exceed £100m, excluding the 22 per cent House of Fraser stake which was bought after the year-end for £41m.

Last year's contribution to profits from the United Kingdom rose by a half from £14.34m to £21.25m and compares with £7.42m in 1975 when assorted other countries were included. Perhaps 60 per cent of the growth last year came from acquisitions.

LONRHO'S PROFITS		
Activity	Profits before tax £m	1977
Agricultural equipment, machinery and motors	21.63	28.38
Export contracting, finance, property and insurance	27.47	15.33
General trade	12.81	12.61
Engineering and manufacturing	10.74	10.54
Textiles	3.14	6.88
Mining and extraction	10.38	8.23
Agriculture	14.08	14.51
Wine, spirits and beers	2.34	1.37
Printing and publishing	1.01	1.01
Hotels	5.5	2.7
	97.73	97.98
Central finance charges (including loan stock interest) and expenses	(7.54)	(4.81)
	90.19	93.37

tions principally London City & Westcliffe and AVP Industries, but there would be virtually nothing from Dumfries & Elliott which missed its forecast during the takeover battle of about £5m pre-tax and just about broke even in the second half.

Lonrho's net borrowings last year rose by £71m to £220m, but £61.5m of the increase was accounted for debt taken on board by the acquisitions.

Borrowings now represent 74 per cent of shareholders' funds, compared with 60 per cent the previous year.

Meanwhile, with authorized capital nearly exhausted, Lonrho is proposing a further increase which could possibly pressage another rights issue or an acquisition for paper though the share price at 75p would presumably need to be higher. Some re-rating seems justified; an historic yield of 13.2 per cent and a p/e ratio of 2.8 looks attractive, although institutions remain wary of the stock for historic reasons.

Derek Harris reports on the battle between the chocolate and confectionery giants

Cadbury seeks to bridge that gap

The problems of Cadbury Schweppes in the soft-drinks market have meant, lately, the chocolate bar, whether in the form of plain chocolate or confectionery, has been the company's main engine of profit.

While Cadbury dominates the drinking chocolate and cocoa market—where its proposed price rises helped spark the investigation of the company by the Price Commission—it is now reaching a critical point in a classic battle in the chocolate bar market.

The main opponent is Rowntree Mackintosh, which since it launched its Yorkie bar in 1976 has denied Cadbury's hitherto easy supremacy of what is known as the moulded market.

The moulded bar market, typically solid chocolate bars or those with mixes like nuts, last year represented about 17 per cent of the total chocolate market, worth some £771m at retail prices.

Until Yorkie appeared on the scene Cadbury had a good two-thirds of the moulded market, its leading brand being the Dairy Milk bars which, like so many of today's chocolate best sellers, has been around for years.

Now Cadbury is claiming only 60 per cent of the moulded market. It has 30 per cent of the confectionery sector which is dominated by the Mars Group's Mars Bar, which is being eaten at the rate of about 350 million a year in this country.

Counlines are bars whose inner confectionery core is robed in chocolate. The top confectionery sellers netting £40m or more a year according to Cadbury's latest review of the market are in addition to the Dairy Milk and the Mars Bar, Rowntree's Kit Kat.

Cadbury also claims 30 per cent of the assortment market, typically the boxed chocolates where Rowntree are particularly strong with their Black

Magic and Dairy Box labels. Black Magic, launched over 40 years ago, has been commanding well over half of the plain chocolate assortment sector and Cadbury's earlier attempts with brands like Contrast and Something Special to shake this dominance met with little success.

This took Cadbury into its recent launch of Bourneville Selection and its chances of success with this seem a lot brighter. The background, nevertheless, remains in the field of the moulded bar.

Where Cadbury faltered was in its response to the escalation of cocoa prices which had been climbing for some years.

Cocoa was fetching around £200 a tonne in 1972 but then climbed progressively until July last year when it exceeded £3,000 a tonne. The cocoa price now stands around £1,500.

Chocolate prices last year rose by about 28 per cent and the normal pattern of sales abated and flow was followed. When prices increase by more than that of the retail price index, sales are clipped—last year by around 3 per cent—but if the inflation rate of chocolate products falls below that of the RPI sales usually benefit. That could happen this year.

Cadbury, when the Yorkie campaign was under way from Rowntree, had been turning out a thinner moulded bar so that the upper surface area still looked good to the customers. The Yorkie bar, of the other hand, has a much smaller top surface area but is thick and chunky.

The customers confirmed research findings in the trade that there is a correlation between the "feel" and "snap" of a chocolate bar, when broken, which is greater in a thick bar. There have also been indications that it is with thicker bars of milk chocolate that this taste sensation is most effective.

But when a bar has a higher cocoa content, as with plain chocolate and some of the imported specialty bars, it is best kept thinner for taste reasons.

Mr Gareth Hughes, Cadbury's marketing director, said yesterday that "There has already been a big increase in sales."

This has been done at a cost of £700,000 on an autumn television advertising campaign last year, with spending this year likely to exceed £1m. But it would not surprise Cadbury if Rowntree's share of the moulded market, hitherto around 10 per cent, reaches 20 per cent this year.

What intensifies the chocolate bar battle is the static nature of the confectionery market. In the United Kingdom there has been a per capita consumption of half a pound of chocolate a week for 30 years. Competitors can increase market share only at their rivals' expense.

A big question in the industry, first asked in earnest when cocoa prices went through the roof, is whether the sugar confectionery market is underdeveloped. Research has been going on for some time to try to produce from a sugar base new products that might be more appealing to the chocolate eater.

Sugar confectionery is cheaper, partly because it is less capital-intensive process. Last year, too, sugar price increases averaged less than half those of chocolate.

Mr Hughes does not see, even within the next five years, any big switch in confectionery



Sir Adrian Cadbury, chairman of Cadbury Schweppes: Whole marketing and selling operation is geared to protecting chocolate sales and promoting their growth.

sales to the advantage of sugar. Despite last year's increases in chocolate prices, sugar confectionery gained only an extra 3 per cent, while chocolate sales drifted down by about the same amount.

He says that if cocoa prices went back to £3,000 a ton and stayed there for at least another year there might then be a change in confectionery buying habits.

But sugar confectionery still looks like being the next battleground in the competitive struggle for the market share. In tonnage terms sugar confectionery is as big as chocolate and still growing, although it represents only about 40 per cent of the total value of the confectionery market.

Cadbury, with Farsall in its stable, has some 3 per cent of the sugar confectionery market. Even the market leader, Rowntree, has only about 15 per cent of what is a highly fragmented sector.

Now Cadbury is about to send out a volley of warning shots in the sector with the aim this year of pushing up their market share to 4 per cent or slightly more. Mr Hughes thinks a 6 per cent share is eventually within reach but he added: "We haven't taken our eyes off the chocolate side. Our whole marketing and selling operation is geared to protecting our chocolate sales and promoting their growth. That has to come first."

William Chislett

Shadow over Spain's secondary banks

Spanish banking circles are becoming increasingly nervous as a result of the recent collapse of the Banco de Navarra, a small commercial bank based in the province of Navarra in the north of Spain.

In itself the rescue move by the Bank of Spain in taking over the bank was not particularly sensational, although it was the first such action by the central bank for some years.

What is more important, the move has highlighted the precarious position of secondary banks in Spain's banking system, and raised the issue of the role of banks in democratic Spain. The Bank of Spain took over the administration of the assets of the Banco de Navarra on January 17 when the bank had total deposits of 9,700m pesetas (about £61.5m) plus capital and reserves of 1,600m pesetas.

The bank has 65 branches in Spain's banking league, forming part of an investment group, MPI, which is involved in property. The Bank of Spain has guaranteed deposits.

The collapse of the bank mainly stems from the Bank of Spain's tight credit policy. This policy was in line with the Government's monetary restrictions laid down in its Moncloa pact with the political parties and was aimed at curbing inflation (29 per cent in 1977) and the payments deficit.

The Banco de Navarra was expanding rapidly and hoped to become a recognized national commercial bank. As a result of the sharp contraction of credit, inter-bank rates rose to 20 per cent last October and November. The Banco de Navarra came to rely more and more on the inter-bank market and its debts are believed to be over 3,000m pesetas (more than £19m).

The last time the Bank of Spain intervened in a similar case was in 1967 when it revoked the licence of the Banco de Ferrol.

Inspectors from the Bank of Spain gave the Banco de Navarra a clean bill of health last year—but not so the powerful Banco Central, which was invited to look over the Banco de Navarra with a view to purchasing it.

When the Banco Central, the second-commercial bank, declined to purchase, a run on deposits started, and the Bank of Spain had no option but to intervene to restore confidence.

Since then banking circles have been wondering whether this was the tip of the iceberg for other small commercial banks (there are 110 commercial banks in Spain) or an isolated incident. Some observers have expressed reservations about the viability of banks below the 40 mark in the banking league.

Mr Rafael Tempreras, president of the Association of Private Banks, denies that there is any crisis in the sector. He declared recently that the number of banks in a difficult situation could be "counted on the fingers of one hand". Nevertheless, while expressing optimism, the banking community is taking no chances and has decided to set up a holding company made up of the Bank of Spain and several other banks to take responsibility for those banks with problems.

The holding company will have a capital of 500m pesetas, half from the Bank of Spain, and the rest divided proportionally among other banks including Banesto, Central, Bilbao and Vizcaya, according to their assets.

The company will acquire and administer the assets of those banks with problems and ostensibly will not be out for profit but to make them viable and continue as private banks.

Mr Jose Maria Lopez de Letona, Governor of the Bank of Spain, said the reason for the delicate position of some banks was not the country's economic crisis but more the lack of professionalism in some banks. He said the holding company would only last as long as was necessary and should restore confidence to the sector.

Initially, the banking community did not want to rescue the Banco de Navarra, a decision which was out of line with its normal policy of solidarity. This lack of support may have resulted from the feeling that the community did not want to give the impression that banks in trouble would automatically

be bailed out. But this attitude seems to have changed with the establishment of the holding company, basically created to restore confidence and ultimately to assure the long-term interests of the banking community itself.

Since the death of General Franco the banking community, particularly the top seven banks, has not been heartened by the advent of democracy. During the dictatorship close links were forged between industry and banks (about 40 per cent of industry is owned by the banks) giving them a powerful position in the economy.

The authorities now have the right to inspect individual and corporate accounts. This enforces the banking community which argues that this betrays the confidence of clients. The large banks are also beginning

to close their ranks through mergers.

In December, Banesto and Banco Coca merged to reconfigure Banesto's position as the leading bank with deposits of 32,000m pesetas. Earlier that month Banesto forfeited its first position when its rival, Banco Central merged with Banco Iberico.

The trend towards greater consolidation of interests is the result of the economic recession and the imminent entry of foreign banks into Spain as part of the government's liberalization of its banking policy.

The operation of foreign banks in Spain, expected to be regulated by the government, will not at the outset present major competition for Spanish banks, but psychologically their presence is having an effect, as is the talk by the left of nationalizing some banks when and if they came to power.



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Business Diary: Small talk • British Shipbuilders' Farningham

a beautiful, then conference of the Party's Small Business is going to be a fair indeed.

rence, the second of an annual series, will be held at the Westminster, on 10th, 11th and 12th March, with 300 or more businessmen and politicians expected to attend.

a quarter and a then last year.

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do come will be hey points of view ey Howe who will axation, John Nott), Barney Hayhoe

(employment)—and to the party's celebrated recent convert.

This is Reg Prentice, the former Labour Secretary of State for Education, who will sum up on intervention, nationalization, allegedly unfair competition from the state and all that sort of thing.

British Shipbuilders has picked a man with useful experience of the difficulties of shipbuilding industrial relations to become its managing director for industrial relations and personnel. He is Ian Farningham, until his latest appointment director of industrial relations at Govan Shipbuilders on the Upper Clyde.

Farningham, an Aberdonian, joins the state shipbuilding corporation at a time when industrial relations on Tyneside have resulted in redundancy notices being issued to more than 1,000 workers after the yard's loss of part of the Polish steps contract. He is also likely to be much involved in the handsome severance payments promised to shipyard workers who decide to leave the industry voluntarily.

His six years at Govan (formerly Upper Clyde Shipbuilders) will prove valuable at British Shipbuilders. A series of new working agreements and productivity deals have been introduced and accepted by the traditionally militant Clydeside workers and the past six years have certainly been more peaceful than during the period of

committee, who along with Jimmy Reid led the celebrated UCS' work in

Meanwhile, we wait to see the board member for industrial relations and personnel, at the Newcastle upon Tyne headquarters of British Shipbuilders. (This is expected to be known before the end of next month)

The walkout of five star film executives from United Artists, reported in Business Diaries recently, is to have an interesting sequel.

All five, Arthur B. Krim, Robert S. Benjamin, Eric Pleskow, William Bernstein and Mike Medavoy are to stay together and form their own production company for independent film-makers. What is more they have got Warner Communications, owners of United Artists' rival Warner Bros, and a consortium of banks to chip in \$90m (£46m). Warner will advertise and distribute the new company's films.

Krim was the chairman of United Artists, and will chair the new, but as yet unnamed, company and Pleskow is again a president and chief executive officer.

They and the rest of their team, who turned down Star Wars, none the less gave United Artists its best results in years with successes like Rocky. They couldn't get on with John Beckett, the chairman of United Artists' parent, TransAmerica Corporation.

At Warner Communications, however, chairman Steven J. Ross seems glad to work with the team, who have been around for a quarter of a century.

Those who have followed the fortunes of Charles Ball over the past year or so will be surprised to discover that since leaving the chair of Barclays Merchant Bank he has added Peachey Property Corporation to his list of small, but possibly growing, non-executive board appointments.

He was officially appointed adviser to the property group when Peachey undertook the public deposition of its former chairman, the late Sir Eric Miller. But Ball also sits on the board of Sun Alliance and London Insurance, which holds what the present Peachey chief executive, John Brown, describes as an "interesting stake" in the company.

In that capacity Ball took more than a passing interest in Peachey's upheavals from the very beginning, and his advice, coupled with that of Brown (who won his spurs during Artage's defence of the Sun Life bid), proved more than a match for the £175m All-London Property offer.

As Brown says, "we have a lawyer and three chartered surveyors on the board, but Mr Ball's arrival now means that we have a couple of fighters".

Mr Brown stoutly resists the obvious inference that the appointment of another doughty campaigner means that Peachey fears another bid.

That seems to make sense, at least until the forthcoming results are out of the way. The preliminary figures, released on March 9 next for the year to June 24 last, will be "fairly fulsome" but, as Brown insists, this will only represent the effects of Sir Eric's reign. The chief executive promises a new presentation of accounts once

he gets a full year's crack at Peachey. This, in his own words, is the meantime "there are more rabbits to pull from the hat".

Few of the staff at Companies House, now in Cardiff, appear to have been trampled in any rush to take advantage of the Welsh language provisions of the Companies Act 1976.

Under the Act, Welsh companies now have the right to use the word "Cwmni" instead of "Limited" as well as to submit to the Registrar of Companies statutory documents in Welsh.

So far, however, fewer than ten companies have availed themselves of the provisions and with less than three months to go before the time limit for changes by established companies, the Department of Trade has put out circulars—in English—urging more use.

Incidentally, there is little scope for non-Welsh companies to pull the wool over people's eyes at Companies House by submitting a false statement of annual returns in Welsh. In the first place, the company's memorandum must state that the registered office is in Wales, and in the second place there must also be a certified English translation.

We may complain about our Post Office but Wiggins' Post & Telecommunications Department (known locally as the palaver and trouble department) may be challenging for a record. A Christmas card posted in Lagos to a colleague there on December 2 arrived at the beginning of this month. Hope the business mail moves more quickly.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Electronic components and armaments spark ML rally

By Ray Maughan

ML Holdings, the armaments, foundry and electronic components group, was always on for a good profits recovery in the half-year to September 30, 1977. And so it proved, with the effects of the go-slow at ML Engineering in Slough blighting the comparable figures to the tune of around £100,000 and the slight impact of the closure of the Post Office relay business also to be taken into account, pre-tax profits climbed by 71 per cent to £277,000.

The foundry contribution slipped slightly as a result of the dislocation caused by the £1m modernization programme, so the main thrust of profit expansion came from the electronic components, distribution and armaments divisions.

It is difficult to predict the future course of armaments profits with so much depending

on the success of major tenders but, if group hopes are realized, the contribution from this side of the business could grow significantly over the next eight or nine years.

The division already appears to have secured a solid base. Sales of equipment for the F104, the Phantom and the Alpha jet for the German Government have been substantial. In the United States, ML has supplied components for all the 120 A78 Harriers built in the United Kingdom. But there is now a strong possibility that the next generation of Harriers, the A78B and its critical wing variant, will be built entirely in the United States.

Yet ML still has a strong interest in United States defence plans and by the Farnborough Air Show in September this year it will know whether an important tender has been accepted.

This is the multiple store

bomb ejector rack project developed in conjunction with Emerson Electric, which will be incorporated into the F16 and into the new generation of United States front-line bombers. The rewards could be enormous and may spin off into other Nato defence but, for the moment, the partnership is tendering against Western Gear.

Successful or not, the group can take comfort from the order flow from the Indian Government. The ejector release unit secured orders worth £250,000 in the last financial year and the group is on the threshold of announcing an even larger order for practice bomb carriers which have the advantage of capability on machines built by both the Western and Eastern powers. In all, Mr Ralph Price, chairman, is confident of a "satisfactory" uplift on 1976-77 total profits of £508,000.

Expansion fruits come through for Aaronson

By Victor Feinstein

The benefits of the big expansion programme undertaken recently by Rickmansworth-based Aaronson Bros have now been translated into record profits for the year to September 30.

Before tax they are 20 per cent up at £2.83m, including more than doubled associate's share of £44,000. Sales were 28 per cent greater at £27.61m, so, using trading profits as a basis, margins narrowed from 10.8 to 10.1 per cent.

With the year's tax credit up from £30,000 to £39,000 and minorities of £369,000 (against £218,000) to be charged, the net attributable profit has risen from £2.22m to £2.56m.

The board explains that the results were achieved in spite of the "extremely difficult" conditions in the latter part of the year. Pre-tax profits in the first half-year were up by 38 per cent.

The higher turnover mainly resulted from greater output from the group's factories and stemmed directly from the major capital expenditure over the past few years.

Exports rose faster than turnover, being 37 per cent higher at £6.28m. With earnings a share, fully diluted, up from 10.4p to 12p, the total gross dividend is being lifted from 2.7p to 2.98p.

Aaronson's previous peak profit was £2.64m pre-tax in 1972-73; the figures hovered around the £1.8m mark for the next two years, then rose to last year's £2.35m.

A Guinness looks for profit rise

Total profits on the brewing side of Arthur Guinness Son and Co are likely to be close to those of last year, Mr R. A. McNeill, the joint chairman, told the annual meeting.

On the non-brewing side, which is of growing importance to the group, Guinness is continuing to do well and Mr McNeill expects increased profits from these activities, which would bring total group profits for this year to a figure modestly in excess of last year.

Group pre-tax profits for 1976-77 were a record £39.45m. In the chairman's statement, Lord Iveagh told shareholders that in addition to the vigorous development of the group's worldwide brewing activities, it was group policy to invest outside the brewing area.

While the group is still in the process of making up its mind as to whether it is to maintain what we would consider to be adequate profits from our brewing enterprise, it is satisfactory to see the non-brewing profits increasing and partially making up for gross loss in the other sector.

Work is in full swing on the new larger brewing extension which the group is putting up adjoining the main buildings to enable the group to brew at Park Royal for the Harp Lager Group.

Overseas, trading is satisfactory, both in volume of sales and in the group's rate of developing new markets.

Forward metal exchange purchase contracts have led to further losses at S. W. Wood, the non-ferrous metals group, and a pre-tax profit has been turned into a loss of £204,000 for the year to September 30.

The closing of the company's remaining forward purchase contracts have burdened the interim results with a loss of £242,000.

Although all such transactions have now been accounted for and no forward purchase positions have been taken since last March, trading generally has suffered from low demand and declining commodity prices.

BOC says its Airco stakes not for sale

In New York, BOC International says it has no intention of selling its stakes in Airco and Salomon Brothers, two investment banking firms hired by Airco Inc, that BOC's 49 per cent stake in Airco is not for sale. It also said that its statements that such shares are

for sale could subject them to what BOC termed "grave liability".

DoT inquiry into H & C Davis

A Department of Trade investigation has been launched into the affairs of H & C Davis, a private construction and light engineering group based in Ashford, Kent.

Mr R. A. T. Stanley and Mr R. F. C. Day have been appointed to carry out the inquiry under section 165(B) of the Companies Act. Controlled by another private group, Rockmark Holdings, H & C Davis's main speciality is the manufacture of balustrades.

Strike may hit Bluemel first-half figures

In his annual report, Mr Beverley Ditcham, the chairman of Bluemel Bros, refers to a production halt for two weeks in October and a Weston factory because of an industrial

Stock markets

Good buying on industrial hopes

In the wake of the miners' settlement within the pay guidelines equities made a bright start as prices were marked up ahead of the anticipated "bear" closing.

In the event subsequent buying was only partly accounted for by technical closing and dealers reported a sizable demand, some of it for the next account. The market is now expecting the power workers to follow the miners' example and generally optimistic sentiment was helped by the likelihood that M.R. will stay unchanged.

The FT index, a full eight points up at 10 am, lost ground over the next few hours but a 2 pm rally rallied again to a share of 32. But substantial profits were taken at the end of trading and by the close the index stood 4.5 up at 473.3.

Gilts continued their bullish run with both shorts, gaining up to 1.1, and longs, adding around 1 of a point, closing at their best levels of the session.

The Government Long "top" E26, a discount of 54 on the partly-paid price and with the heavy demand of the previous evening leaving some jobbers short of stock, up to 5300m worth is thought to have been sold. The "top" closed at E26.

Major Peugeot dealer Marshall's Universal lost 12p to 130p yesterday with some dealers talking of a hidden. Following the Inchcape agreed bid for Pride & Clarke there is some speculation that the West of England Trust's 26.16 per cent stake in M.U. will be sold through a subsidiary, already changing hands.

The authorities are also thought to have sold some of the shorter-dated stocks bought earlier in the account to steady the market.

The good quality buying yesterday came from all types of investors but there is little sign of the speculative, hurt as prices fell earlier in the month.

Yields at the longer end are back down under the psychological 12 per cent level while shorts, no longer under the shadow of an 8 per cent M.L.R., also had no difficulty in finding buyers.

A feature of the industrial leaders was the continuing weakness of Reed International

which lost another 31p to 1061p making a loss of 161p over the first four days of the week. Adverse comment apart, there is a feeling that the persistent selling and lack of technical reaction might herald something "afoul".

But there was a more positive response from other leaders like ICI, up 4p to 356p, Beecham 3p to 633p and B.A.T. Industries which ended five points better at 297p.

Lucas Industries at 262p lost just 1p yesterday but look steadier than last month when broker Smith Keen Cutler had a circular which knocked 10p off the price at a stroke. But many are taking the view that further selling would not be justified. Labour trouble means that the first half year to January 31 cannot be good, but there are hopes of a second half recovery to leave 1977-78 profits only a million or two below those of the year before.

After continuing weakness following figures in early trading Decca "A" rallied to an unchanged 435p, but the ordinary share fell off at 440p. Another on the pitch GEC rose 3p to 262p in spite of news of another sit-in.

Though details were not officially released in trading hours there was a good market in Lanchia, up 4p to 75p, ahead of the annual report. The Lanchia "top" closed at 75p.

Continuing takeover hopes while speculative buying added 11p to ERF at 170p and 4p to Yule Catto at 77p. Textile manufacturer British Vita closed 5p better at 83p after touching 87p at one point. The dividend is already covered almost 10 times so shareholders could be expected to see a rise in the annual payout should Government restraints lapse in July.

Continuing takeover hopes were good enough to add 5p to J. Bibby at 219p and MFI at 114p while United Scientific another speculative stock, firmed a penny to 274p. News that a 15 per cent stake in

lure lifted the leisure group's shares 4p to 188p and also gave a boost to ticket and fund-raising cardmaker Norton & Wright which ended 9p better at 187p after a day of strong support.

As usual on these occasions the drinks sector responded smartly to the general market buoyancy. The good news of trading at the annual meeting of Guinness, predicted here earlier this week, brought an initial spur to 181p, a gain of 3p, even though the shares settled back to close at 176p, a net loss of 2.1p for the day.

Bass Charrington 4p to 144p and Vaux 7p to 410p also attracted support, while Distillers ended five points to the good at 176p.

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Big stocks bobbed back into the spotlight yesterday. Suter Electrical, highlighted here yesterday, was suspended at 103p at the company's request pending a further announcement while speculative buying added 11p to ERF at 170p and 4p to Yule Catto at 77p.

Textile manufacturer British Vita closed 5p better at 83p after touching 87p at one point. The dividend is already covered almost 10 times so shareholders could be expected to see a rise in the annual payout should Government restraints lapse in July.

Continuing takeover hopes were good enough to add 5p to J. Bibby at 219p and MFI at 114p while United Scientific another speculative stock, firmed a penny to 274p. News that a 15 per cent stake in

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International Accounting standard brakes ITT

International Telephone and Telegraph, one of the United States' top 13 enterprises in terms of sale, the textbook multi-national concern, and for Mr Anthony Sampson, "The Sovereign State" did its best yet in 1977.

Income before extraordinary items rose by 14 per cent to around \$562m but earnings a share advanced by only 8 per cent to \$4.14. Sales were a peak \$13.1 billion.

Mr Lyman Hamilton, president and chief executive says that ITT has a lot more to gain from appreciating foreign currencies this year.

Under accounting standard FASB 8 last year's fourth quarter earnings suffered to the extent of 45 cents a share compared with only 16 cents in the final three months of 1976.

But under the same rules stock appreciation in foreign exchange terms comes into play this year as the stocks are sold. Last year as a whole saw Hartford Insurance set new records, gains in automotive and food lines, and an about-turn in the Sheraton Hotels group. European consumer goods and natural resources did less well. Mr Harold Geneen has relinquished many duties to Mr Hamilton, but he is still chairman.

Kenway joins Eaton

Eaton Corporation announces that Kenway of Bountiful, Utah, has joined Eaton through a transaction involving cash and a conversion of Kenway shares into Eaton common stock.

Kenway produces systems to control material flow and manufacturing processes, and is a leader in the design and manufacture of automated storage and retrieval systems. Its sales for the year to April 30, 1977, were \$36.2m and net income was \$1.9m.

Eaton's association with Kenway began in 1970 when it provided financial, technical and management support to Kenway, and obtained voting control and an option to buy the venture.

Eaton serves capital goods markets, and consumer and commercial markets throughout the world.

Margins crumble at Christie-Tyler

By Michael Clark

Four months ago Mr George Williams, chairman of Christie-Tyler, told the annual meeting, although there were signs of an end to the furniture recession, he also looked to a "negligible" profit for the half to end-October. This was borne out yesterday when the group turned in pre-tax profits plunging from £825,000 to £111,000.

Turnover of this Glamorgan-based group, increased from £16.2m to £18.6m and margins crumbled from 5 per cent to 0.59 per cent. Earnings a share are 0.6p compared with 4.1p for the corresponding period, but the directors declare an interim

dividend unchanged at 2.4p gross. The shares fell 1 1/2p yesterday.

On a brighter note he reports that there has been the normal seasonal upturn in trade. While forecasting remains extremely difficult, profits for the second-half should not be far short of those achieved in the same period.

In the last full year to April 30, 1977, Christie reported pre-tax profits down from a record £31.8m to £25.5m with sales up by 25 per cent to £40.15. The board said that the seasonal fall-off in demand in the latter stages was greater than expected. This presented second-half half profits from surpassing the similar period.

Over £1m at Noble Grossart

For the first time, pre-tax profits of Noble Grossart, the Edinburgh-based private banking group have passed the £1m mark with a 14 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.01m for the year to January 31. Total assets have increased from £22.3m to £24.7m.

Mr Angus Grossart, the chairman, says that after allowing for the two-for-one bonus issue made some years ago, the group is now earning £6 pre-tax on each £1 invested in the original ordinary capital in 1969, and that each £1 invested then is now backed by over £18 of net assets.

He looks with confidence to the prospects for the coming year.

Reviewing the group's activities, he says that the corporate finance business had a good year, with the last few months being particularly active. On the banking side margins were maintained, the acceptance credit business was expanded. Most of the resources were held in liquid form in the banking book, and at a time of falling interest rates the group has had to make up the resulting fall in income elsewhere.

The group has continued to develop its oil and gas activities both at home and overseas.



The most important point that Mr Owen Aisher (above), chairman of Noble Grossart, has to make about the group's future is that the growing level of capital employed by this building materials group needs a selling volume which has yet to come its way. One main reason for the "significant fall" in the return on capital during 1977 was that the group's capital base has expanded so rapidly.

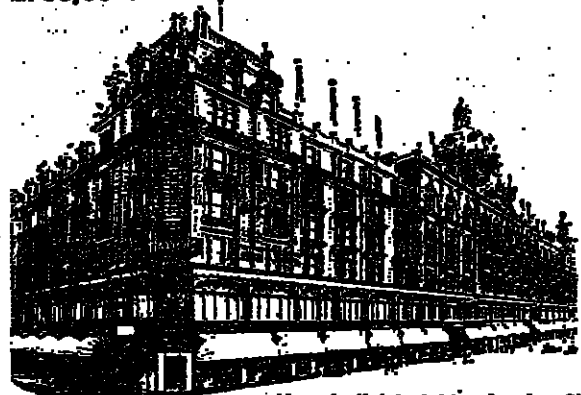
Capacity to absorb additional business without undue extra cost is therefore high. When world economies improve, particularly in Canada, France, Germany, South Africa

"The 1977 profits and turnover do not yet reflect our considerable expansion this year in the United Kingdom"

R. W. Rowland, Chief Executive

Highlights for the year to 30th September 1977

Total turnover increased by 16% to £1,257 million and profit before interest and tax was £105 million, compared with £99 million in 1976. The profit attributable to shareholders before extraordinary items increased by 21% to £48 million. A final dividend of 4.2212p net per share makes a total of 5512p net for the year. The employees of the Group and Associates in the United Kingdom now at 55,000.



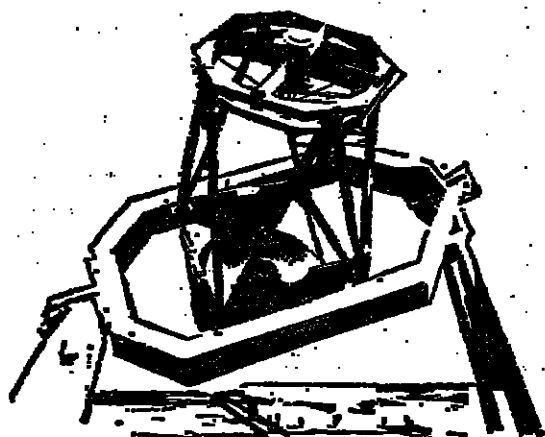
Harrods, Knightsbridge, London, SW1.

The net asset value of the company's UK interests is now over £100 million. In addition, £41m has been spent on a strategic holding in the House of Fraser - an exceptionally fine group of specialist shops and department stores, including Harrods, J. & Navy, Dickens & Jones, John Barker and J. Evans.

Lonrho also acquired another important shareholding during the year, when the company bought 29.24% of the share capital of Scottish and Universal Investments, SUITS, whose businesses range from whisky to newspapers and publishing, produced very good half-yearly results in September 1977, with an increase of over 27% in profit before tax compared with the same period last year. SUITS holds a further 10.29% interest in the use of Fraser.



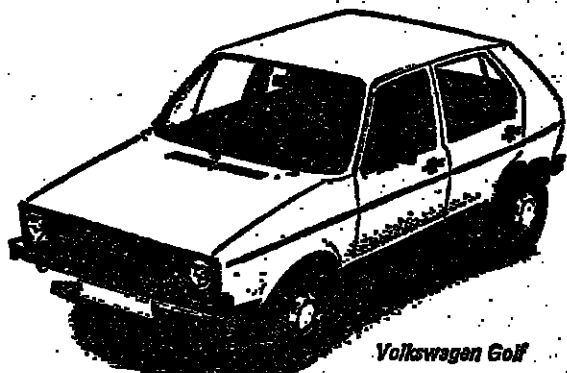
Whisky & Mackay Whisky



The Mauna Kea Telescope exported to Hawaii by Dunford & Elliott

As an addition to the company's engineering sector, we acquired Dunford & Elliott. This Sheffield group makes high quality carbon and alloy steels, mainly for the automotive industry. They also make forged steel rolls, extrusion press parts, armour plate and electronic research equipment.

The Engineering Group now comprises sixteen operational companies and twenty-five manufacturing sites in the United Kingdom, with an annual turnover of £140m.



Volkswagen Golf

Our exclusive Volkswagen and Audi franchise in the UK had a successful year with sales of 54,000 units. We will benefit from better supplies in 1978, and from the completion of our new £7.7m computerised central parts depot at Milton Keynes.

Our international confirming house, Balfour Williamson, achieved a record year.



Picking tea in Africa

Lonrho has tea estates in Malawi and East Africa, where total production exceeded 4.5 million kilograms. Most of the tea the company grows is sold on the London market, and subsequently blended for tea bags.

Beef ranching is undertaken over approximately 1.5m. acres, with a total herd of 100,000 head of cattle. The year was fair with average calving rate, and 20,000 head were sold, to bring results very similar to last year's.

Ashe & Nephew shops, which sell wines, spirits and beers in the north of England, made a significant contribution to United Kingdom profits, whilst increasing turnover to over £21m through 221 outlets.

For many years Lonrho was listed as a mining house. Although our mining operations have not physically reduced in size, the profit contribution has been overshadowed by the extension of our other activities. This year mining and extraction provided us with £10.98m. The improvement was particularly due to increased revenue from coal, anthracite and asbestos operations. The company produced 14,000 kilograms of gold, 5,500 kilograms of silver and 3,850 kilograms of platinum group metals.



The London Metropole Hotel

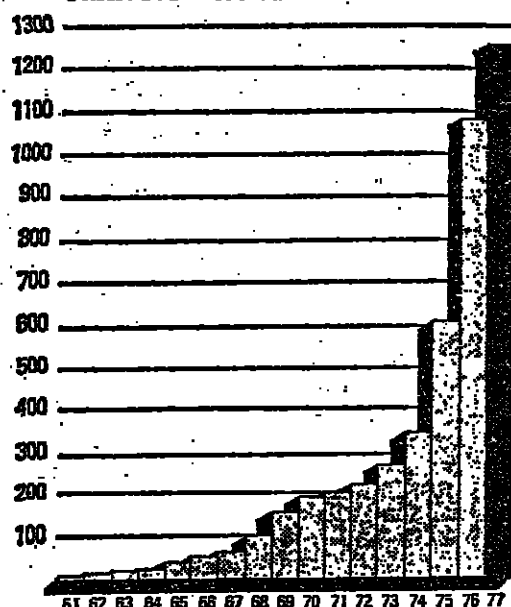
During the year we bought all the share capital of A.V.P. Industries, a flourishing group which includes the important Metropole Hotel Group, consisting of five hotels in London, Brighton and Birmingham. The Birmingham hotel facilities include the largest modern hotel conference centre in Great Britain.

Brentford Nylons' main factory at Cramlington was one of the United Kingdom businesses which was streamlined this year. An improved range of household textiles is now being manufactured. We have reinforced our technical management at Cramlington with a re-training programme.

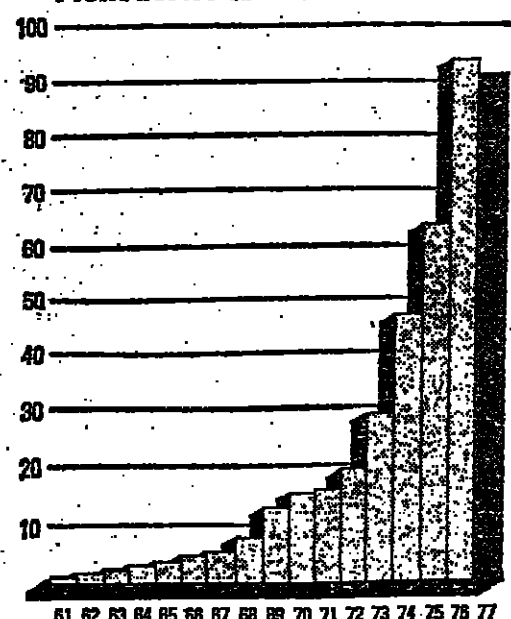
The sixty-ninth Annual General Meeting of Lonrho Limited will be held at the Great Room, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W.1. on Tuesday 7th March 1978, at 12 noon.

Copies of the full Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Lonrho Limited, 138 Cheapside, London, EC2V 6BL.

Turnover £ million

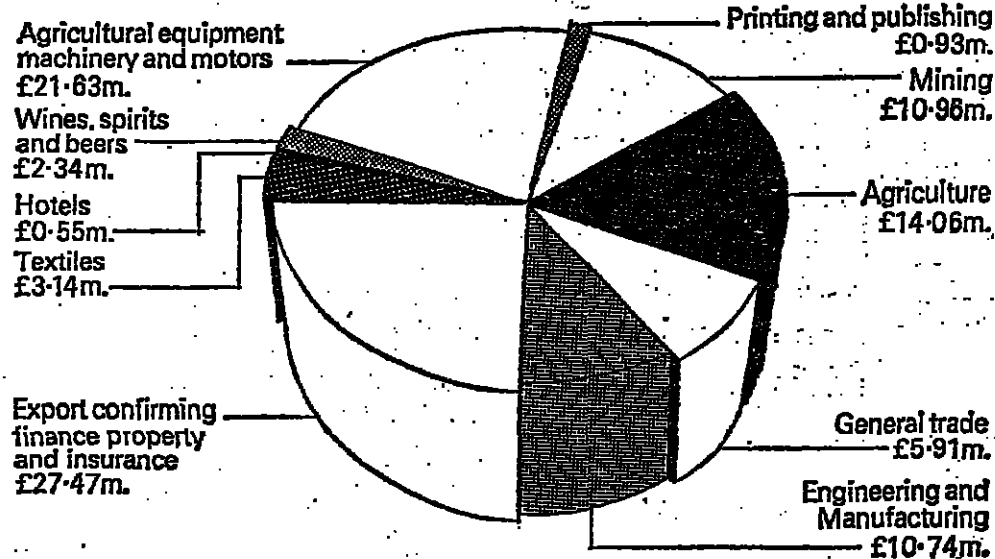


Profit before taxation £ million

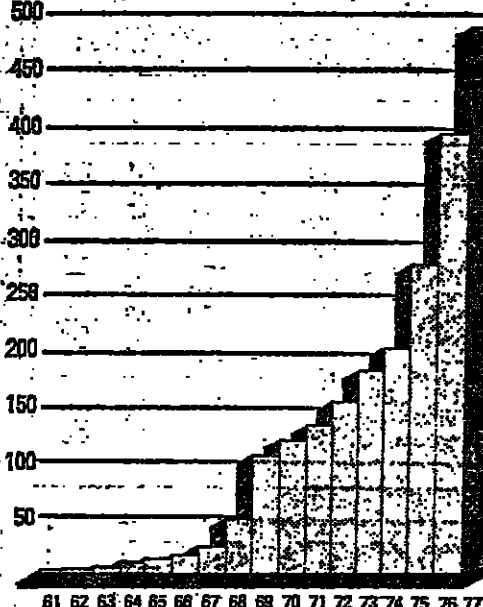


Analysis of Profit before tax and central finance charges

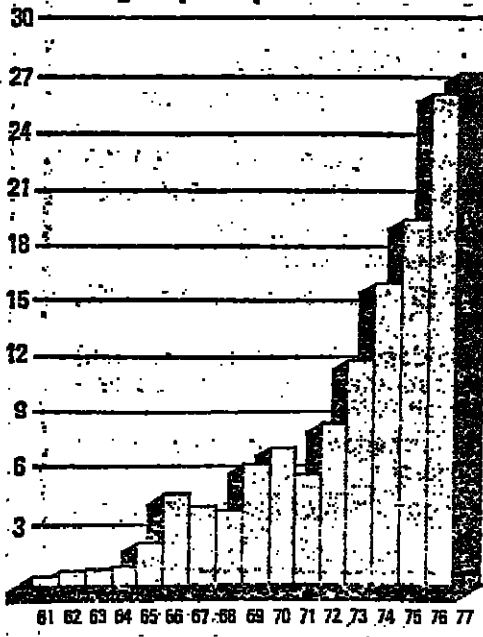
year ended 30 September, 1977



Funds employed £ million



Earnings pence per share



LONRHO

Lonrho Limited, 138 Cheapside, London EC2V 6BL

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
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Stock Exchange Prices

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ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Jan 30. Dealings End, today. \$ Contango Day, Feb 13. Settlement Day, Feb 2

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]



£6,000 plus appointments

Management Consultants

to £14,500

The Management Services Division of Arthur Young and Company is presently established in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney and operates throughout Australia and South East Asia. Continuing growth makes it necessary to extend the bases in which these services can be provided.

We wish to appoint a number of additional consultants, both male and female, at various levels in each of the offices mentioned. The vacancies exist in the following practice areas:

Human Resources Management

Human resources consultants provide consulting services to our clients in the areas of executive recruitment, management development, organisational planning and compensation studies. Applicants should have experience in executive search and recruitment, organisation planning, and the desire to further their skills in management development both in education and the maintenance of recommended programmes. We invite applications from people who have a genuine interest in human resources management, a high degree of judgement, ability to communicate at a senior level, and successful experience in the business world. A relevant tertiary qualification is desirable.

Please telephone Bill Dineen 01-831 7130 Ext 506 to discuss the position. Use telephone Alan Wells 01-831 7130 Ext 454 to discuss the position.

Information Systems - EDP

Information systems consultants provide specialised services to a wide range of clients in commerce and industry. This embraces the review of corporate information requirements, review of data processing installations, feasibility studies, communication requirements, and equipment and software evaluations. Applicants should have experience in the implementation of information systems. They will be familiar with current developments in the industry. They will be well qualified and have had a tertiary education. Experience and achievement to date demonstrate outstanding skills in data processing, accompanied with initiative and an ability to communicate.

Please telephone Alan Wells 01-831 7130 Ext 454 to discuss the position.

Although every attempt is made to keep travel to a minimum, applicants should be aware that there may be the need to travel throughout Australia and South East Asia. For each position normal executive benefits will be applicable.

MS Arthur Young Management Services, Rolls House, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3NL

Large professional practice require a Senior Administrator

Managerial experience essential as applicant will report directly to Partnership. Salary in accordance with age and experience.

Please write with full c.v. in confidence to Box No. 0781K

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HAMBROS BANK

Leasing Executive

The Equipment Leasing Department of Hambros Bank has a vacancy for a marketing executive, aged between 25 and 35, with good commercial experience and sound knowledge of the leasing industry. The successful applicant must have a proven record of financial marketing at the highest corporate level, and will have the ability to combine negotiating skills with a high standard of technical competence in financial, legal, accounting and tax matters. Salary commensurate with ability and experience, is negotiable, with good fringe benefits.

Applications may be submitted in strictest confidence to: Mr. A. F. Steel, Manager, Hambros Bank Equipment Leasing Department, 41 Bishopsgate, EC2.

Corporate Planner National Industrial Policy

£9,320-£11,670

The Department of Industry's responsibilities embrace both the national and regional aspects of industrial policy, including financial assistance to industry. The Department sponsors individual manufacturing industries including iron and steel, aircraft and shipbuilding. The Corporate Planner will head a branch within the Department's Industrial Planning Division, whose interests include the Department's statutory and financial relationship with the National Enterprise Board, policy planning in relation to industry, and the promotion of interest in education and training as a boost to manpower resources. A major role will be to initiate and take part in discussions with leading companies and trade unions on business strategy in the light of government policy. The successful candidate will also participate in conferences, seminars and training courses relating to corporate planning.

and be concerned with the development of the Department's interest in management education and relations with the British Institute of Management and professional marketing bodies. Candidates, preferably aged between 40 and 55, must have a wide knowledge of industry, including practical experience at a senior level in the corporate planning function of a major industrial organisation. Overseas industrial experience would be an advantage. Salary for this London post starts at £9,320 and rises to £11,670; non-contributory pension scheme. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 2 March 1978) write to the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G97092.

Department of Industry

Investment Department

Welsh Development Agency

The Investment Department has the main task of assessing the viability of projects in which the Agency may seek to invest. The Department currently has the following vacancies:

INVESTMENT MANAGER/ESS.

(BASED AT WREXHAM)

Salary range up to £6,000 p.a.

The successful candidate who must be a qualified accountant with no less than 6/7 years of post qualification experience will report to the Deputy Investment Director and will exercise day to day supervision of the work of a small team of Investigating Accountants in North Wales. In addition he or she will carry out investigatory work throughout the North Wales area concentrating particularly on the more substantial projects. An accountancy qualification is essential and career experience must have been in a broad based professional practice, a Merchant Bank, or the Industrial Appraisal Department of a substantial company.

INVESTIGATING ACCOUNTANT

(BASED AT BANGOR)

Salary range up to £6,000 p.a.

Prime responsibility will be to produce accurate meaningful financial appraisals of projects and to prepare relevant and clear reports, the majority of which will be related to small businesses. In addition to financial appraisal, part of the duties will be the giving of accountancy advice to small firms. An accountancy qualification is required together with career experience particularly encompassing management accounting in a variety of small companies. Both posts require good communicative skills at all levels together with the ability to obtain a "feel" of a business and identify problem areas. Each post carries a six week leave entitlement in addition to public holidays together with a car allowance. There is a contributory pension scheme. If you feel you meet the above criteria, please write or telephone for an application form.

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT (REF. 133 G) WELSH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY TREFOREST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PONTYPRIDD MID GLAMORGAN CF37 5UT TELEPHONE TREFOREST 2666 EXT. 262

NADIAN ENGINEERING OPPORTUNITIES EDMONTON, ALBERTA

Engineering positions are immediately available for design engineers and draughtsmen in the Edmonton, Alberta, office of a large western consulting firm. AESL is Canadian owned, successfully operated since 1946. These positions will be related to development of the petrochemical industries which are early stages of long term development. Approximately 700 employees involved in industrial engineering and is solely an engineering consultant.

SENIOR PIPING DESIGN DRAFTING PERSONNEL

are available for people who have years industrial experience in process and piping layout. Detail work to include studies, piping orthographics, details, support of piping systems, material and material control. Ideal incumbent would be with all aspects of piping projects, have ability and be capable of becoming a piping leader.

SENIOR AND INTERMEDIATE PIPING DRAFTING PERSONNEL

are available for people with 5-15 years piping experience in equipment layout. Detail work to include piping piping orthographics, details, isometrics, take-off and pipe support, detailing, compensation and benefits package, salary and opportunity for advancement long term positions. Relocation assistance available. Applicants are invited to submit, as soon as possible, a complete resume together with salary history to:

E. Nolin, Personnel Manager Associated Engineering Services Ltd 13740-St Albert Trail Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5L 4R8

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

c. £6,254-£6,986

The Agency has become available following the death of our present Assistant Secretary to a administrative position at the Council for Academic Awards. An appointed will assist the Secretary and the Council in the central administration of academic and will be required to have suitable qualifications and abilities, with a good knowledge of administrative practice, preferably with experience in an institution of Higher Education. The appointment will be within the £6,254-£6,986 (inclusive of all allowances). may be obtained from: Acting Officer, Polytechnic of the South Bank, Road, London SE1 0AA Tel: 01-928 8989 ext. 2023.

Experienced Working Systems Analyst

Analysts/Designers with an international background, are required to join a small team engaged in developing an advanced banking system for world wide use. Salary from c. £8,000 based on experience. Fringe benefits, mortgage facilities, profit share. Attractive new offices, City location, with congenial team and opportunity for foreign assignments only to:

MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST CO., INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATION SUPPORT GROUP, 38 CHEAPSIDE, 3RD FLOOR ADMIN.-EXAD, LONDON EC2V 6AR.

To be received by 28th February, 1978

East Malling Research Station Maidstone, Kent

Director

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the East Malling Research Station which will become vacant when the present Director retires early in 1979. The Station, financed by a grant-in-aid from the Agricultural Research Council, is concerned with basic and applied research on the propagation, culture and cropping of fruit and other perennial woody plants, their protection against pests and diseases and post harvest treatment including storage. Candidates should be eminent in one of the scientific disciplines relevant to the work of the Station, with proven ability in the conduct and management of research and an awareness of the problems of practical horticulture. The appointment is in the grade of Chief Scientific Officer, salary £11,875 including Phase 2 pay supplement. There is a non-contributory superannuation scheme.

Applications are to be submitted by 28th April, 1978 to the Secretary, East Malling Research Station, East Malling, Maidstone, Kent ME19 6BJ, from whom further details are available.

Director

OF THE POULTRY RESEARCH CENTRE EDINBURGH

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Agricultural Research Council's Poultry Research Centre which will become vacant when the present Director retires on the 27th June, 1978.

The work of the Centre is concerned with research on domestic poultry and their environmental needs which includes work in the fields of physiology, anatomy, nutrition and behaviour, much of which involves interdisciplinary collaborative research.

Candidates should have qualifications or equivalent experience in one or more of these subjects together with a proven ability in the conduct and management of research. Preference will be given to candidates with relevant experience of poultry research.

The post of Director is graded Deputy Chief Scientific Officer, the initial point on the salary grade being £10,180 rising by two annual increments to £11,190. In addition a Phase II supplement of £280.80 per annum is currently payable. There is a non-contributory pension scheme.

The closing date for applications is 27th February, 1978. Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from Dr. Gareth H. Jones, Agricultural Research Council, 168 Great Portland Street, London, W1N 6DT.

Experienced Programmers

A leading American Bank requires programmers with experience. Ideally, candidates would have a good working knowledge of RPG II, and IBM equipment, but all applicants will be considered based on details submitted. Starting salary from c. £5,200, based on experience plus excellent fringe benefits and mortgage facilities for the right applicants.

Attractive new offices, City location, with a spirited, congenial team working on advanced banking systems and latest hardware. Foreign travel possible later on. Don't delay - act now - send written applications to:

MANUFACTURERS HANOVER TRUST CO., INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATION SUPPORT GROUP, 38 CHEAPSIDE, 3RD FLOOR ADMIN.-MAN/EXP, LONDON EC2V 6AR.

To be received by 28th February, 1978

GEOPHYSICIST

PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SYDNEY

Australian Aquitaine Petroleum, a subsidiary of ELF-Aquitaine of France, is seeking a Geophysicist with not less than five years' experience, to assist with the Company's exploration programme in Australia and New Zealand.

Applicants should be graduates and familiar with modern processing and interpretive techniques. The successful applicant will be required to make periodic visits to areas in which the Company has an interest and evaluate areas in which the Company may wish to acquire an interest. He will be expected to travel within Australia and overseas.

Remuneration will be attractive and according to qualifications and experience. A superannuation scheme is available after a qualifying period and 17% per cent leave loading applies to annual holidays. Applicants should forward full personal and professional details to:

The Exploration Manager, AUSTRALIAN AQUITAINE PETROLEUM PTY. LTD., Box 725, P.O., North Sydney, N.S.W. 2060 Australia.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

An International Company is looking for a talented man or woman with a lively interest in European social, economic, government and business affairs. He or she will occupy a senior position within an experienced group and total remuneration could exceed £10,000 for the right person. Some travel will be required.

The position is most suited to a journalist, academic, economist or public servant, but the advertiser has no preconceptions and will consider applicants from any background or discipline. More important will be the ability to write fluently, to communicate effectively, to work fast - occasionally under pressure - and to anticipate and analyse social, economic, government and associated developments in Europe. Fluency in a language other than English would be an advantage. This is a position which is genuinely open to both male and female applicants, and ability is more important than nationality.

Write with appropriate details to:

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Box 0255 K, The Times

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

SECRETARY

Electricity Consumers' Council

The ECC was created in November 1977 by the Government as an independent, non-statutory body to represent the interests of electricity consumers in England and Wales at national level. Working with the twelve area electricity consumer councils, the job of the ECC is to make its influence felt on all issues affecting the interests of consumers of electricity in relation to the generation, supply and sale of electricity and to the sale by the industry of other electrical goods and services.

The Secretary will be the Council's chief executive and responsible for its effectiveness to the Chairman. He or she will play a leading role in developing the Council's policies and its relationships with government, the electricity industry, the consumer movement and a wide variety of other organisations.

Candidates may have a background in industry or commerce, public administration, social services or a profession. They must have demonstrated in their careers an ability to innovate and achieve results; to manage a team of people; to be an effective public advocate as well as a policy maker. They must also have a broad understanding of public affairs.

The post is pensionable and the salary will be in the scale £7,982-£10,302, including current pay supplements and London weighting allowance.

In an appropriate case, a secondment could be considered.

Application form and further particulars may be obtained from The Chairman, Electricity Consumers' Council, 119 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5PY. Closing date for receipt of applications: 13 March 1978.

Milner Macaulay Ryder

Written applications under 'Personal and Confidential' cover will be forwarded direct to the Company

Please apply in the first instance to John Ryder, Milner, Macaulay, Ryder Limited, 16, Fairfield Villas, Deighton Road, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS22 4TN

Stepping Stones - Non-Secretarial - Secretarial - Temporary & Part Time Vacancies

NON-SECRETARIAL

JULIANA'S

Would you like to be a successful secretary?

I am looking for attractive, lively people (preferably over 23) interested in a full-time or part-time job at our top London office. The position offers a wide range of responsibilities and a chance to develop your skills. If you are a motivated individual, please apply to: JULIANA'S, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

LUCIENNE PHILLIPS

89 Knightsbridge, S.W.1

Requires experienced and motivated secretaries for various positions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: LUCIENNE PHILLIPS, 89 Knightsbridge, S.W.1. Tel: 01-235 2134.

FEATURES EDITOR

For Cosmopolitan

Only workbooks with writing skills, magazine experience and ideas should apply. Please write with full details of experience, availability and present salary to: Cosmopolitan, The National Magazine Co. Ltd., Chertsey House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1HF.

ASSISTANT EDITOR

For Cosmopolitan

This is an exciting and creative job but only those with writing, commissioning and organising experience, good magazine and newspaper contacts should apply. Please write with full details of experience, availability and present salary to: Cosmopolitan, The National Magazine Co. Ltd., Chertsey House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 1HF.

RECEPTIONIST

For estate agents in Holland Park Avenue to handle P.M.B. 418. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Receptionist, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

ART & ANTIQUES

The publisher of The Connoisseur magazine needs a secretary, interested in these subjects. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Art & Antiques, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARIAL

CONSULTANTS

(Obstetrician/gynaecologist and orthopaedic)

Requires experienced Medical Secretary for Harley Street. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Consultants, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

PUBLICITY/DESIGN MANAGER

Of Book Publishers needs secretary (preferably female) for publicity department. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Publicity/Design Manager, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Required for estate agents in Holland Park Avenue. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Secretary/Receptionist, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

KINGS ROAD Fashion Publishing Co.

Requires experienced and motivated secretaries for various positions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Kings Road Fashion Publishing Co., 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SPORTS FAN with Sec. skills

Required to help arrange sports events. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Sports Fan, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

ANNALS require a secretary

for a busy office. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Annals, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARIES FOR ARCHITECTS

Permanent positions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Secretaries for Architects, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

ARCHAEOLOGY/CHRISTIANITY

Requires experienced and motivated secretaries for various positions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Archaeology/Christianity, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARY/PA

To the Director and to the Sales Manager of progressive group of educational journals. The Post offers a wide variety of responsibilities, requiring initiative, enthusiasm and common sense. Good shorthand and typing is necessary. Hours 9.30 to 5.30, 15p L.V.s. Age 21+.

Salary negotiable above £3,000

Please write giving age, experience and present salary to: Mr. D. S. Dyerson, Periodicals Director: EVANS BROTHERS LTD., Montague House, Russell Square WC1B 5BX

SECRETARY/PA (Shorthand)

Required for general management of major Japanese subsidiary company's modern City office. Good education, secretarial, shorthand and typing. Salary £3,300-£3,500 (incremental) plus annual bonus, luncheon vouchers, 4 weeks' holiday (4 weeks' after 12 months).

Please write to: SECRETARY/PA, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARY

required for two Partners in busy West End Chartered Surveyors office.

Excellent working conditions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

PERSONAL SECRETARY

The post of Personal Secretary to the Director calls for previous secretarial experience, with shorthand and typing. A knowledge of French, would be useful in this interesting international environment, and candidates should be willing to work independently. Please apply to: Personal Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

TWO SPECIAL TRAINEE POSITIONS

Within prestigious Hulton Company that offers two full-time, well-paid, and interesting positions. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Two Special Trainee Positions, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

BAKER STREET KNOWLEDGE GERMAN

English shorthand essential but not German. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Baker Street Knowledge German, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

LANGUAGES AN ASSET AT LEADING INTERNATIONAL FIRM

Senior Executive at the Mayfair office of a leading international firm needs an intelligent young lady with a good knowledge of French and German. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Languages An Asset, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

JAYCAR CAREERS

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Recruitment Consultants

Publicity/Design Manager

Of Book Publishers needs secretary (preferably female) for publicity department. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Jaycar Careers, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

SECRETARY/PA

Good shorthand to assist Director and managing director of London charity. Skills in typing, shorthand and office management. Salary £2,500-£3,000 plus bonus. Please apply to: Secretary/PA, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

THE CITY AND EAST LONDON AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY (TEACHING)

Committee Secretary/Personal Assistant

GAA Grade £5,524 rising to £4,408 (inc.)

The Area General Administrator needs someone who is able to demonstrate organizational common sense and who is willing to accept responsibility. In return we offer an interesting and challenging post which provides an excellent opportunity to gain valuable experience for career advancement.

The successful applicant will be a capable and confident secretary with good shorthand/typing speeds. Experience of previous committee work preferred, as in addition to personal secretarial duties there is a good content of committee work including attendance at meetings of the Health Authority and dealing with the members. The preparation of reports for the Area General Administrator over a wide range of Health Care issues will provide a further dimension to the job.

If you are interested in the post and would like to know more, ring Ian Donachie, the Area General Administrator, on ext. 281 who will be pleased to answer any questions about it. For application form and job description ring the Area Personal Officer, The City & East London Area Health Authority, 22/24 Chart Street, London N1. Tel: 01-253 3020 ext. 345.

Qualified Secretary

Accurate shorthand and typing and an interest in figure work would be required. Knowledge of Greek language an advantage but not essential.

Please address your cv and state salary expected to: Box 0782 K, The Times.

SHORTHAND SECRETARY/P.A.

A leading firm of Chartered Surveyors require an experienced and well educated Secretary/P.A. to work for a Partner in their City office.

Together with an excellent salary, the successful applicant will enjoy a profit-sharing scheme, free BUPA, 40p L.V.s and 4 weeks' holiday plus the comfort of a modern office.

Please ring Alistair Allan on 01-236 1520 for an appointment.

PA/Secretary

For Senior Partner in small, friendly legal office in Piccadilly. Legal experience essential. Salary from £4,000-£4,500 p.a. according to experience with excellent prospects. Principally commercial and high court work. Capable of dealing with clients. Knowledge of Scottish affairs helpful. 4 weeks holiday plus week at Christmas/New Year.

Ring Mr Alan Wilson on 01-734 2816.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

£5,500 p.a.

A great job, less than half the salary of your super boss. The Marketing Consultant really needs a number of people who can help. Co-operate in the Administration of this vital office. Not just a secretary. You'll be dealing with salesmen, schedules, supervising trips, checking appointments, and attending meetings and banquets. Salary £5,500 p.a. plus free lunch in staff restaurant. Hours 9.0-5.15.

Apply: Personnel Officer, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

ITALY

£4,500-£5,000

Good working knowledge of Italian. British company urgently seeks experienced shorthand secretary, English mother tongue. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Italy, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

Part-time Vacancies

PUBLISHING

Managing Director of leading London Publisher in the West End requires a Part-time Secretary. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Publishing, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

College Leaver Secretary/General Assistant

Opportunity for bright person with 30 W.N.A. typing (willing to learn shorthand) to join well established firm of Chartered Surveyors. Excellent starting salary with training. Please apply to: College Leaver Secretary, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance in the Times Newspaper Limited, copies of which are available on request.

TYNE AND WEAR COUNTY COUNCIL

TYNE AND WEAR ACT 1976

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Tyne and Wear County Council have represented in writing to the Secretary of State for Transport pursuant to Section 13(1) (a) (i) of the Tyne and Wear Act 1976 that under the circumstances now existing the tolls authorised to be charged in respect of traffic passing through or into the Tyne Tunnel should be revised as follows:-

CLASSIFICATION OF VEHICLES

FOR A THROUGH TUNNEL	TOLL SINGLE JOURNEY INTO THE TUNNEL
1. For each motor cycle with or without sidecar or power assisted	5p
2. For each motor car (including motor car with trailer) with or without sidecar or power assisted	10p
3. For each motor vehicle with or without trailer in each case	13p
4. For each goods vehicle or passenger carrying vehicle as defined in the Road Traffic Act 1930	40p
5. For each heavy goods vehicle or passenger carrying vehicle as defined in the Road Traffic Act 1930	80p

Nothing in the representation prejudices or affects any other provisions of the Tyne Tunnel Tolls Order 1957 Confirmation Instrument 1957 as revised by the Tyne Tunnel Tolls (Revision) Order 1975.

Copies of the representation may be inspected free of charge at the offices of the County Solicitor, Tyne and Wear County Council, Sandford House, Archibald Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. Copies of the representation may also be purchased at the same office on payment of a fee of 10p for each copy.

Any objection to the proposed revision of tolls must be made in writing before 1st April, 1978 to the Secretary of State for Transport, Department of Transport, 2, Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3PB, and should state the grounds of objection. A copy of the objection should also be sent to the County Solicitor, Tyne and Wear County Council, Sandford House, Archibald Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 1ED.

DATED this 10th day of February, 1978.

J. E. HANCOCK, County Solicitor.

EDUCATIONAL

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

INFLATION ACCOUNTING RESEARCH PROJECT

Applications are invited for a Research Fellowship in Inflation Accounting, to be held for three years from a date to be agreed. Salary £5,500-£6,000 p.a. plus pension and other benefits. Please apply to: The University of Manchester, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

Temp

We have the best jobs and rates in London.

Phone: Gabrielle Richardson on 01-374 1555 for details.

CRISIS CONTROL

Staff Consultants

SECRETARIES

WIMBORNE, N.W.10

We need several shorthand and typing secretaries to work Monday, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on a permanent basis. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Secretaries, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

THE ODD SPOT

Are you free for odd days, odd weeks or even better, odd months to earn the odd spot of cash? We have a number of odd spots available. Please apply to: The Odd Spot, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

Business Opportunities

VEHICLES AND DRIVERS

For hire. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Business Opportunities, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

Commercial and Industrial Property

COLLEGE REQUIRED

Freehold 5-6,000 sq. ft. to be used as educational property in Bloomsbury, Kensington.

Please ring: \$80 5254.

Commercial Services

TELETYPE/TELEPHONE

Answering in English or French. Excellent salary and benefits. Please apply to: Commercial Services, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

POSTGRADUATE COURSE IN SOLID STATE PHYSICS

The course is designed for postgraduate students who wish to obtain a more advanced knowledge of solid state physics. The course will be held in the Department of Physics, University of Sheffield, during the academic year October to June, ending in March. The course is open to students who have obtained a first class honours degree in Physics or a second class honours degree in Physics with a good amount of credit in the relevant subjects. The course is taught by leading experts in the field and includes practical work. The course is free of charge and includes a stipend. Please apply to: The University of Sheffield, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

ERNEST ADLINGTON SCHOLARSHIP

J. A. KNOWLES MEDICAL ETHEL MIDDLETON SCHOLARSHIP

Application has been made to the Secretary of State for Education and Science for an Ernest Adlington Scholarship and an Ethel Middleton Scholarship. The Ernest Adlington Scholarship is for a student who has obtained a first class honours degree in Medicine or a second class honours degree in Medicine with a good amount of credit in the relevant subjects. The Ethel Middleton Scholarship is for a student who has obtained a first class honours degree in Science or a second class honours degree in Science with a good amount of credit in the relevant subjects. The scholarships are free of charge and include a stipend. Please apply to: The University of Sheffield, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

DRAC (BRITISH OFFICIALS) PROVISION FUND

The fund is designed to provide financial assistance to British officials who are unable to work due to injury or illness. The fund is open to all British officials who are members of the fund. The fund is free of charge and includes a stipend. Please apply to: Drac (British Officials) Provision Fund, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JH. Tel: 01-374 1555.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

INFLATION ACCOUNTING RESEARCH PROJECT

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Place your message in The Times on Valentine's day.

On February 14th, there will be a special section in the Personal Columns devoted to Valentine messages. Once again the Times bears a Valentine's day offer to thrill the heart of your loved one.

Included in the cost we will send your Valentine, to arrive by 14th February, this year's new selection of love poems, written by some of the great love poets through the ages, printed with a beautiful illustration and presented as a sealed scroll.

To ensure your message is read there will be a card with the scroll reading: "There is a Valentine's message for you in The Times."

The minimum size for your message is 3 lines (allow 28 characters including word spaces per line) for which the cost is £7.25, but should you wish to extend your sweet-nothings, it will only cost you £2.50 for each additional line.

Complete the coupon below and return it with a cheque or postal order made out to Times Newspapers Limited to:

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Scrolls cannot be guaranteed to be delivered by Feb 14th on orders received by The Times after 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9th. Offer applies to U.K. only.

West